

Refining 681

Chapter 681A – The Foggy Mountain Valley and the Blood Flame Fruit Tree

The young girl would venture out on her journey the next day. She would leave the mountain village where she had lived for over a dozen years, bringing with her the longing and yearning she held in her heart as she pursued her dreams of becoming a cultivator.

The old granny helped her pack, ‘ahh’ing’ and gesturing with her hands the entire time. She was admonishing her granddaughter to always be careful when she went out and to pay attention to protecting herself.

The old man pulled Qin Yu into the courtyard to drink tea. What he served was the best collection of tea leaves he had, “Young Qin, A’li owes you a great deal in this matter. I had her agree to a condition before she could leave. No matter what her achievements are in the future, as long as you ask for it, she will marry you.”

Qin Yu waved his hand repeatedly. “No need, no need, old sir you are overthinking things again...”

“Humph! It’s already settled like this, otherwise I wouldn’t have let her take the ash line grass!” The old man seriously warned, “When it comes to affection between men and women, at the very start of a burgeoning relationship, one will always see the other in the most beautiful light and will be willing to give everything for them. But, this sort of emotion will gradually fade away with time. I am only giving you an opportunity that you can save for the future. At least...”

The old man didn’t finish speaking but Qin Yu understood his meaning. At that time, even if A’li refused him, she would give him sufficient compensation.

This old man was a truly kind and good person. Qin Yu’s heart warmed. He smiled and nodded, no longer refusing. “Then I must thank you!”

The old man smiled in satisfaction.

After a night of silence, A’li prepared to leave for her long journey. She stopped in front of Qin Yu and said, “I am leaving, so I’ll have to trouble you with watching over my family.” She bit her lips and said, “Grandfather has already told you about our deal. As long as you want, I will agree at any time!”

After speaking she hugged the old granny and old man. Then, she hopped onto the ox cart that took goods outside the village. In the bright morning sunlight, she went farther and farther away.

Watching the ox cart leave, Qin Yu smiled, not putting her words in his heart. He was more aware of the truth behind Old Zhou’s words than anyone else. When a person made a promise, they always believed that they could accomplish it. But, they never realized that things could change with the passing of time.

Of course, Qin Yu never had any thoughts of being intimate with this young girl from the start. So his heart was calm and serene.

When A’li left the mountain, the surrounding village youths were all left crestfallen. But when they saw Qin Yu they felt a bit comforted.

The unhappiest one here should be this boy. He had tried so hard but failed in the end; he was even more pitiful than they were...thinking like this, the village youths all felt much better. As expected, all sorts of undeniably toxic roots were hidden in the hearts of people.

Qin Yu began to herd the sheep out of the village. As he did, he could feel the gazes of the young men on him and faintly sensed the strange look in their eyes.

After A'li left, the Zhou Family's heavy responsibility of shepherding had fallen upon his shoulders. Perhaps because the elderly couple already regarded Qin Yu as their granddaughter's husband, they easily accepted this.

Using the words of the old man, once the two of them passed from old age, everything in this family would be handed down to Qin Yu.

Perhaps this was a subconscious form of compensation. Qin Yu stood at the edge of the pasture, looking up at the lush mountain range around him, a smile on his lips.

He had moved forward with great difficulty in the world of cultivators and had experienced untold amounts of blood and slaughter. Due to that, these moments of warmth and serenity became that much more precious.

With a thought, a small crowd of purpleback bluewing ants flew over. Qin Yu's divine sense could clearly feel the closeness and intimacy that they transmitted to him.

"Look after the flock of sheep. Don't let them become lost."

After passing down this order, the purpleback bluewing ants buzzed and dispersed outwards, falling down around the edges of the pasture. With them watching over the sheep, there wouldn't be any problems.

Giving Big Pig a heavy kick, Qin Yu smiled and said, "Come on, we're entering the mountains."

The ancient trees rose into the skies. Because of the rich spiritual strength in the air, the crowns of the trees were particularly large and lush. They wove together, forming a net that blocked out the falling sunlight, leaving the environment below much darker.

The ground was covered in thick layers of fallen leaves and branches. Big Pig's body had grown several times larger. Carrying Qin Yu on his back, he calmly raced forward. With the purpleback bluewing ants cleaning up the surrounding area, the strange monster beasts in the mountain forest had long since run away.

Big Pig's nose constantly twitched. He climbed through a ditch, his actions seemingly containing great purpose and direction. Soon, he stopped when a cliff appeared in front of them.

The cliff was high and deep blue in color. Its peak broke through the barrier of the tree crowns and was exposed beneath the brilliant sunlight. Looking at the top, there was actually a crystal-like hive, one that was impossibly large.

Big Pig's eyes filled with desire and infatuation. "Although I have no idea what kind of bees those are, the honey they gather is absolutely something good..." As he spoke, drool leaked from the sides of his mouth.

Qin Yu approved Big Pig's judgment. He looked at the beehive that was several miles large and revealed a hint of anticipation.

"Let's draw back a little."

Hearing this, Big Pig turned and walked away. He didn't hope to get sucked into the ensuing battle. When they reached a safe area, Qin Yu clapped his hands and the surrounding peace was broken by loud buzzing sounds. The ant swarm immediately appeared, gathering in from all directions.

On the cliff, the beehive seemed to sense an outside threat. The worker bees that were outside quickly flew back in. Then, a massive number of black soldier bees flew back out.

Each one of them was the size of an adult's forearm. Their black wings shined with a metallic sheen beneath the sunlight.

Qin Yu issued an order with his mind, "Take down that beehive!"

The ant swarm shot into the skies and arrived atop the cliff in the blink of an eye. The soldier bees guarding the hive immediately engaged them without hesitation.

Compared to the palm-sized purpleback bluewing ants, the soldier bees were much larger. However, in terms of combat strength, they were far weaker than the ant swarm. Their iron-hard bodies were easily torn to shreds by the ant swarm. After several clashes, the soldier bees had suffered immense casualties.

Suddenly there was a scream from the beehive. A rich dark purple light erupted, sweeping across the battlefield.

When the soldier bees were covered by this dark purple light, their auras instantly rose. The ant swarm suffered an obvious suppression and their overall strength was weakened.

Queen bee?

Qin Yu furrowed his eyebrows. He never thought that the beehive would have this sort of strength. But, this was also normal. Since this beehive was so openly exposed, if they didn't have the strength to preserve themselves, they would have been carved up by the various surrounding monster beasts and would never have survived until today.

But depending on this still wasn't enough to block the ant swarm's attack. After completing their evolution, whether it was in strength or wisdom, the purpleback bluewing ants couldn't be compared with ordinary monster beasts.

Buzz –

Buzz –

The wings of the ants began to accelerate. And, what was even more amazing was that the frequency at which their wings shook started to rapidly synchronize.

The textures on the surface of the purpleback bluewing ants began to light up, forming a visible shockwave that spread out in all directions.

The dark purple light resisted for a brief moment before it was crushed to nothing. The beehive screamed out once more, this time tinged with pain. The soldier bees fell into confusion and panic.

At this time, a weak voice resounded in Qin Yu's ears, "Revered and strong beast master, according to our ancient agreement, I am willing to surrender to you and offer half the hive's accumulations as well as the secret location of a treasure. I ask you to show kindness and benevolence and allow me and my people to survive."

Qin Yu wasn't sure what this so-called ancient agreement was, but he was curious about what treasure the bee queen was referring to. If even this formidable beehive couldn't obtain it, the treasure had to have some formidable protections. And, treasures with formidable protections were often equally valuable.

Qin Yu's eyes flashed. He said, "Tell me the information about the treasure. I will determine whether it is valuable enough to exchange for your lives."

The bee queen didn't refuse. "As you wish."

A divine sense fluctuation shot out. After clarifying that there was no danger to it, he reached out a hand and accepted it. Countless pictures flashed through his mind. In the end, the picture that stayed was that of a mountain valley covered in fog.

The wind blew away the fog, revealing a special plant that grew along the mountain wall. It was around 30-40 feet high and crimson in color, with red fruits hanging off its branches.

Looking further down, the scenery became blurry. One could only faintly see that around this flame-like plant, there were all sorts of bones piled up.

Pa –

The picture ended.

The bee queen's voice rose up once more. "Powerful beast master, if my inherited information isn't wrong, this is the legendary blood flame fruit tree. The fruits it forms are precious treasures that can strengthen flesh and blood. I once dispatched soldier bees to pick some, but in the end they all perished in the fog.

"In that mountain valley, not only are there all sorts of formidable monster beasts but there are also naturally formed array formations. It can be called a dangerous land. However, the fruit of the blood flame fruit tree is enough for anyone to take certain risks. If you are satisfied with this information, please accept my surrender."

Qin Yu's thoughts raced. He said, "80%! I want 80% of the hive's savings!"

The bee queen's voice became sharp, "This doesn't conform to the ancient agreement. I have already put forth sufficient sincerity..."

"90%!" Qin Yu's eyes were ruthless, a cold chill circulating within them. "Remember what your current situation is. If you don't accept this then let's fight!"

The queen bee was silent for some time. Then, it said dejectedly, “The beehive will comply with your will.”

They were nothing but fish on the chopping block. The result wasn’t unexpected.

Chapter 681B – The Foggy Mountain Valley and the Blood Flame Fruit Tree

With Big Pig personally digging, it was impossible for the beehive to hide their belongings. Besides barrels of honey, there were also various precious treasures.

Qin Yu even discovered a ring with a simple style. It was pitch black in color and completely common-looking. After inquiring with the queen bee about its use, a strange look crossed Qin Yu’s face. He placed the ring tightly on his finger.

Ring of Liars. After using a drop of blood to make it recognize an owner, it could change according to the cultivator’s thoughts and release an aura of varying levels – to put it succinctly, if a first-level cultivator fantasized that they were a second-level, they could release the aura of a second-level cultivator. If they fantasized they were a third-level cultivator, the logic was the same.

Of course, the Ring of Liars required that the cultivator’s fantasy be complete and accurate in order for the illusion to be realistic. To Qin Yu, this condition didn’t matter. He had temporarily lost his cultivation but his boundary still existed. At a critical moment, this powerless ring used for bluffing might be able to display an unexpected effect.

After plundering from all around and making sure he hadn’t missed anything, Big Pig cheerfully hummed and used a tusk to rip open a spatial crack and store the harvests within.

This caused Qin Yu to discover that this fellow had been hiding a special ability – space controller. According to Big Pig, this was an ability he obtained after accepting the king’s inheritance of the pig race. He possessed an independent storage space that he could freely open and close anywhere.

“Space controller?” Qin Yu mumbled beneath his breath. When he looked at Big Pig, his eyes were dark and quiet. Big Pig’s legs began to shake as an inexplicable sense of restlessness rose in his heart.

The harvests from the beehive were astonishing. In particular, Qin Yu’s smile was even brighter after he appraised the honey. It actually had the dual effects of nourishing the body and soul.

Although the effects were weak, the quantity of it couldn’t be ignored. In particular, after being purified by the little blue lamp, the color of the honey became almost like liquid amber. By taking one sip, one could clearly feel small flows of heat travelling through one’s body before finally disappearing between the eyes.

Lying down in his room in the Zhou Family’s courtyard, the images passed to him by the queen bee constantly replayed in his mind. He could see the mountain valley covered in fog as well as the blood flame fruit tree growing there.

The queen bee shouldn’t have been lying. Then, if he could obtain the blood flame fruit, he could rely on its potent effects to restore a portion of his bodily strength.

With the might of Qin Yu’s Ancient race body, he could directly face a Calamity Immortal. Even if it was only a portion of that strength, it would be enough to protect himself.

He took a deep breath and suppressed these thoughts. "There's no need to hurry. I'm recovering my strength every day. If I wait some time before going to take the blood flame fruit, the chances of success will be even higher!"

Ever since the beehive had discovered the secret within the mountain valley, no one had picked it even until now. This proved that it wouldn't be taken anytime soon. Qin Yu had more than enough time to prepare.

After finishing herding the next day, Qin Yu placed a bottle of honey that had yet to be purified by the little blue lamp on the table. "My luck was good today and I found a beehive. The honey inside has a very good flavor. Granny, you should try it with the old sir."

The potency of the purified honey was too strong. The blood vitality of the two elderly people was too weak and they might not be able to withstand it. Qin Yu was well aware of the concept of too much of a good thing.

The old granny laughed and accepted it. She casually made a few hand gestures.

"The old sir went out to help others work again?" Qin Yu revealed a helpless look.

Ever since A'li left, Old Man Zhou had worked even harder than before. With his excellent craftsmanship skills, he soon became known as a skilled carpenter in the surrounding villages...perhaps beneath all of this, there was a certain intention of saving as much as possible to compensate Qin Yu with.

"You should tell that old man that someone of his age should be resting more often. There isn't any need for him to work so hard!"

The old granny 'ahh'ed' and waggled her fingers. She said that this time the old man had left the mountains to go to Kun City 300 miles away. He was going to work for a wealthy family so he would definitely be able to make a great deal of money.

Speaking to her, the old granny had a proud expression.

Five days passed. When Qin Yu was herding the sheep back to the village, he found that there were rows of people gathered outside the Zhou Family courtyard. They were all shouting with sad and unwilling expressions on their faces.

Seeing Qin Yu return, the crowd parted ways, revealing an ox cart parked in front of the courtyard doors. Old Man Zhou was lying atop it.

His face was covered with black gas and living creatures seemed to wriggle beneath his flesh. His aura was weak and he had clearly reached the point of exhaustion.

The old granny lay prone to the side, crying her lungs out.

Qin Yu soon figured out the story from the mouths of others. Moments ago, the steward of the Liu Family that had requested Old Man Zhou to do some work for them had brought the ox cart here with several people. They said that he hadn't listened to the warnings and had ventured off into a forbidden zone within the Liu Family grounds, and was then bitten by some poisonous creature. After rattling off this explanation, they tossed some money over and swaggered away.

Looking at Old Man Zhou's appearance, Qin Yu's heart was icy cold. He cupped his hands together at everyone, "I've caused all of you to be frightened. My family's old sir isn't feeling well right now, so I won't be greeting you."

As everyone cried out in alarm, Qin Yu lifted Old Man Zhou up and walked into the courtyard.

After placing the old man on his bed, Qin Yu said to the old granny, "Don't worry. I've learned methods to deal with poisons so I won't be contaminated by them. Granny, can you boil some hot water for me? I will need to use it soon."

The dazed granny seemed to have grasped a final thread of hope. She hurriedly turned around and rushed away.

Qin Yu lifted a hand. With his Great Dao finger that had been formed by poison, he touched the old man's body.

Black gas gushed out, drilling into his fingertip. The old man's expression became much better.

However, Qin Yu didn't relax. This was because the true reason the old man fell unconscious wasn't this poison gas, but because of a yin chill strength that had occupied his body.

Although he hadn't done a thorough inspection yet, if he wasn't mistaken then this should be the strength of a curse!

This curse strength wasn't strong. However, the old man's body was weak and frail with age, and with the Liu Family's delay in addition, it had seeped into his bones already. If it couldn't be erased, he could die at any moment.

"Kun City, Liu Family!"

Qin Yu's eyes were ice cold. But, he knew that the most important task at hand right now was to save the old man's life.

With a kick to Big Pig, Qin Yu took out a bottle of strengthened honey from the spatial crack and fed some of it to the old man. A bit of color returned to the old man's pale face and his breath became much stronger and more stable. However, this was only a surface appearance.

Taking the astonishingly potent purified honey was in itself a type of injury to the old man. But with the old man's condition, Qin Yu had no other choice. He could only use this plan to lengthen his life right now.

When the old man's aura stabilized, Qin Yu inspected him and let out a breath of relief.

With the support of the honey, the curse strength's corrosive powers had temporarily relaxed. If things continued like this, Old Man Zhou would be able to last for several more days.

But this plan could only be used once. Otherwise, the old man's body wouldn't be able to take it anymore and he would directly die.

The old granny had finished boiling the water. She pushed open the door and rushed in. When she saw the old man with a much better appearance than before, she cried out in surprise, almost thinking it was an illusion. She pulled Qin Yu over and loudly 'ahh'ed' him in a questioning tone.

Qin Yu quickly said, "Granny, there is no need to worry. The old man is relatively fine. It's just that the residual poison is still lingering so he'll be sleeping for a few days. I can cure him, but I am lacking a type of medicinal herb. I need to go into the mountains to search for it. Just stay here and take care of him; I will be back as soon as possible."

Concealing the current situation was the best choice. Qin Yu didn't delay. He gathered some things and headed out.

At this time, the sun was falling down over the western horizon. A sunset glow filled the skies. Seeing Qin Yu walk deep into the mountains without any sign of turning back, the villagers that hadn't yet left all revealed shocked expressions.

This surname Qin, was he tired of living? Didn't he know that no one dared to enter the mountains at night?

Several youths that once had the thought of 'teaching' Qin Yu all revealed looks of shame. If they were compared to this man who walked fearlessly into the mountains, then it was true that they didn't deserve A'li.

When Qin Yu crossed the threshold of the pastures, the skies were already dark. Big Pig suddenly said, "Master, are you sure about this? That place is deep in the mountains and there are sure to be dangers upon dangers there. Is this all worth it for an average person?"

"It is!"

Qin Yu said decisively. The ant swarm howled forth, picking up him and Big Pig. As Big Pig howled out in sorrow, they flew into the mountains.

Chapter 682A – Terrifying Blood-red Tentacles

A girl and her uncle were in a peaceful training chamber. Because of her uncle's gloomy face, the air was thick and heavy. But, the girl across from him had a stubborn expression written all over her. Even in the face of his oppressive eyes, she had no intention of backing down.

Finally, a sigh echoed throughout the chamber. "Mu Xuan, you must promise me that you will place your own security at the highest level of priority. The pressures of the family's prosperity shouldn't be shouldered by you."

The young girl had a surprised expression, "Thank you uncle! Don't worry, the treasure searching squad is extremely strong this time and several of the participants are famous young powerhouses of the sect. It was only with great difficulty that I was able to get a spot...uncle, you're too great!"

Mu Tong opened his hand to reveal a dark blue bracelet. It was unknown what type of material it was forged from, but its surface gleamed with starlight.

"Take this bracelet with you. Don't refuse me."

Mu Xuan stuck out her tongue and obediently received it. When she placed it on her wrist, she felt her spirits lifted and her body also seemed to become much lighter.

Mu Tong waved his hand. "Go, go. Remember to be careful in all things. Never try to show off!"

Moments later, the members of the treasure searching squad all gathered together beneath a pavilion outside the sect. The leader was a solemn and quiet young man. They boarded a boat-like flying magic tool and flew up into the skies.

...

After going deep into the mountain range, Qin Yu encountered dangerous situations multiple times. A giant silver eagle flew around the ant swarm several times before finally retreating in fear.

This caused Qin Yu to adjust his previous assessment. This was only an ordinary mountain range and yet there were so many formidable monster beasts here. The cultivation level of this world might be higher than he had imagined.

A shadow appeared in Qin Yu's heart. If he wanted to obtain a blood flame fruit, it clearly wasn't going to be as simple as he imagined. Taking a deep breath, he suppressed the nervousness in his heart. He kept comparing his surroundings with the images he received from the queen bee.

"It should be around here."

The ant swarm circled around a little and a black mountain peak appeared in sight. Qin Yu's eyes brightened. He ordered the ant swarm to immediately change directions.

Soon, a mountain valley covered in thick fog appeared. Looking around, he determined that this was the mountain valley where the blood flame fruit tree grew.

Qin Yu carefully observed the area. The terrain here wasn't too low and there appeared to be something suspicious about the fog. It caused him to recall the natural array formations that the queen bee said were here. He gave up any idea of crossing through the fog for the time being.

With a thought, the ant swarm quickly landed, placing him and Big Pig on the ground. But at this time his complexion changed.

Shallow traces could be seen everywhere as if they had been made by sharp weapons. From the edge of the valley they were short and light, but the further into the valley they were, the deeper they became.

A small number of purpleback bluewing ants flew forward. They were acting as Qin Yu's eyes. After submerging into the fog, they soon discovered signs of battle.

Qin Yu's face darkened. Some people had come here even earlier than him and had entered this mountain valley.

But, the traces of battle were new and there were still fluctuations of strength in the air that had yet to dissipate.

Qin Yu's eyes sparkled and he relaxed. Perhaps this wasn't a bad thing at all.

He allowed the small number of purpleback bluewing ants to explore the path ahead. Giving Big Pig a kick, the two of them lightly stepped into the valley.

Big Pig's ability to sense danger ahead of time was useful in situations like these.

Big Pig shook as he followed behind Qin Yu. Seeing the increasingly terrifying signs of battle all around as well as the massive number of monster beast corpses cut to shreds, the smell of blood flooded the senses. Big Pig cried without tears.

Rather than leaving peaceful days they had come all the way to this perilous place. He must have sinned in his past life!

If he had a choice, he would have turned around and run. Because due to his naturally gifted talents, in Big Pig's senses, this mountain valley was no different from the open mouth of a giant monster.

This place was too terrifying. In particular, in the depths of the mountain valley there had to be something absolutely horrifying. He had to find a way to make Qin Yu leave this place ahead of time. As a loyal and kind Pig King, he had to be responsible for his master's safety!

As Big Pig was preparing a number of excuses, Qin Yu seemed to have already sensed his intent. Qin Yu spoke up, and although his voice was very low and light, it caused Big Pig to feel as if he fell into an icy lake.

"Don't even try to speak nonsense. If we can't obtain a blood flame fruit then you'll stay here as a burial gift for Old Man Zhou."

Big Pig shivered. He was well aware that with Qin Yu's tone and expression, he wasn't joking at all. This fellow really would do that!

He furiously shook his head, tossing away all his previous thoughts into the depths of hell. He gave Qin Yu a firm and decisive look before turning his fat buttocks and rushing ahead. Still, in his heart he was streaming with tears.

Oh dear heavens, what evils did my ancestors commit? Why must a pig's life be so hard?

Before taking several steps, Big Pig came to a sudden stop. His small eyes stared at the fog in front.

There was movement ahead!

Qin Yu signaled for the ant swarm to pause. Although he didn't move forward, he was able to see through the purpleback bluewing ants and know what was occurring up ahead.

...

Over a dozen young cultivators all had their backs against each other. They were desperately trying to stimulate a treasure that looked like a withered branch. It released a light green light that formed a giant bowl, sheltering the people within.

The surrounding fog fiercely tumbled. Strange figures of monster beasts appeared all around them. They were all condensed from the fog and wildly attacked the barrier of green light. The green bowl of light was like a little boat in the storm, about to capsize at any moment.

“Senior-apprentice brother Qi, this array formation is naturally formed from the heavens and earth and possesses endless strength. If we cannot break through, we will exhaust our strength sooner or later...”
The female cultivator didn’t finish her words, but her pale complexion sufficiently proved how scared she was.

The one called senior-apprentice brother Qi was a handsome young cultivator. Even in this situation he maintained a calm demeanor.

“I have a rare treasure that can be directed to temporarily tear through space and break out of this array formation. Help me defend; I need some time to prepare.”

Everyone seemed to obtain some other information from these words. The restless crowd relaxed a little.

Mu Xuan looked at this senior-apprentice brother Qi who was able to comfort the group with just a few words. Her eyes lit up with admiration. He was truly worthy of being someone in the top 20 ranks of masters within the sect. When would she ever have his level of strength?

As the young girl was lost in her envy and daydreams, she didn’t realize that two senior-apprentice sisters who were supposedly on good terms with her had started to open up some distance with her.

Shua –

Qi Shengtian’s eyes flashed open. He pointed a finger and radiant golden light gushed out from his fingertip. As he did this, his complexion paled.

Mu Xuan froze where she was. Her wide eyes were filled with disbelief. The golden light drilled into her body, leaving her unable to move anymore.

“Junior-apprentice sister Mu, I’m sorry. If we are lucky enough to return to the sect, we will request that they reward your family for your honorable sacrifice.”

Qi Shengtian had a faint expression as he spoke. He lifted a hand and slashed the air in front of him. Black light flashed and a spatial crack appeared.

“Let’s go!”

Whoosh –

Whoosh –

Everyone rapidly flew in. This included the two senior-apprentice sisters who had warmly called Mu Xuan a sister yesterday. Neither of them even glanced back at her.

The spatial crack healed over. In the green light, the only one remaining was Mu Xuan. With the supply of magic power rapidly diminished, the light that the withered branch released also began to quickly die down.

“So I was nothing but a chess piece chosen ahead of time, one that could be tossed away at any moment...uncle, I’m sorry, I didn’t listen to you...”

Mu Xuan’s eyes filled with fear and despair.

...

When the purpleback bluewing ants completed their first evolution, while their strength wasn't heaven-defying, they actually had a faint trace of the Ancestral Monster's aura. Through their eyes, Qin Yu could see things that weren't visible to his own.

For instance, this formidable heaven and earth array formation. In truth, it would erupt with different killing powers depending on the strength of the intruder. And more importantly, after using up a massive amount of energy, the strength that the array formation had saved up would be exhausted soon.

"With the support of the strength that is already poured in, she should be able to survive this. What a lucky young girl." Qin Yu whispered. He looked deeper into the valley and said, "But some people don't have such luck."

He avoided the scope of the naturally formed array formation and continued to venture deeper into the valley. Of course, the premise of this was all because of the fact that the array formation had already been triggered. Otherwise, even the purpleback bluewing ants wouldn't have been able to discover where the boundaries of the array formation were.

Fierce explosions pierced through the fog, accompanied by screams of horror and strange howls.

The purpleback bluewing ants that explored the path ahead only had time to glance around the depths of the mountain valley once before they were swept away by a blood red tentacle. Their life auras were immediately lost.

Qin Yu's complexion changed. He brought the ant swarm with him and fled backwards. Luckily, the crimson tentacles didn't chase him; they were still fighting the group of cultivators that had broken into its territory.

Qin Yu calmed down. The scene that had appeared when the fog momentarily disappeared had imprinted itself into his mind. A tree with crimson colored fruit was peacefully growing on the edge of the cliff. Three fire red fruits were hanging low on a branch. But at this time, the ground that was covered with bones had been torn to shreds by a formidable strength. Countless blood-red tentacles crazily danced in the air, bringing with them a swift and terrifying aura. A young cultivator was caught in these tentacles and had been torn apart, blood and pieces of his organs splashing down all around...

Qin Yu wasn't sure what these blood-red tentacles were, but they were undoubtedly powerful. Even if he used the full force of the purpleback bluewing ants to face it, there was still no hope of success.

He rejoiced in his heart. It was fortunate that there was a crowd of cruel and merciless cultivators drawing the strange creature's attacks, otherwise the one facing the barrage of blood-red tentacles would be him right now.

While watching such evil people die was something joyful and relaxing, Qin Yu couldn't summon up any happiness at all.

There was almost no chance of defeating such formidable and terrifying blood-red tentacles. Even if these people all perished here, that still didn't change the fact that he couldn't take any of those blood flame fruits.

Without blood flame fruits, Old Man Zhou would die. Could it be that he could only stare on helplessly as that kind and lovable old man, a benefactor who had saved his life, died?

According to common sense, in a situation where he had determined that he couldn't obtain any blood flame fruits, then to avoid being sucked up into anything more dangerous he should hurry up and leave as the group of cultivators were putting up a last ditch struggle to survive. The further he went the better it would be. But after thinking for some time, Qin Yu decided to remain.

Perhaps it was stupid of him, but as long as he didn't leave, there might be a chance.

Qin Yu knew that if he didn't do his best in trying to save Old Man Zhou, he would regret this for the rest of his life. It might even influence his future cultivation.

"Then I'll risk it one more time..."

He muttered beneath his breath with a firm look on his face!

Chapter 682B – Terrifying Blood-red Tentacles

In the deepest depths of the mountain valley covered by fog, there was a crowd of young experts who were willing to do anything, even abandoning their comrades. But at this moment, they had all fallen into horror and chaos. They barely managed to survive the wild onslaught of tentacles. The weaker members of the group had already been torn apart on the spot.

They watched helplessly as their fellow cultivators were reduced to strips of flesh and blood. After splashing to the earth, their remains quickly rotted away and were absorbed, leaving behind nothing but bones. The psychological pressure this scene exerted on the survivors nearly caused them to collapse.

"Ahh! I don't want to die! I don't want to die!" A female cultivator wept out loud, tears streaming down her face. Her previous days of arrogant beauty had all but disappeared.

Her magic power was about to be exhausted soon. Then, with a light 'pa' sound, the barrier of light around her was crushed to pieces.

With a sharp scream of despair, this elegant female cultivator was dragged away by a blood-red tentacle. Unfortunately, the blood-red tentacle didn't have a human judgment for beauty, and thus it didn't feel any pity at all.

Scalp-tingling sounds followed. Flesh and blood was sucked dry and all that was left were bones.

"Senior-apprentice brother Qi, let's hurry up and leave otherwise we'll die here!"

Qi Shengtian had a pale face. "Fine, I'll immediately tear through space!"

The remaining cultivators were overjoyed. They gathered together. Once the spatial crack appeared, they would all flee within.

But at this time, there were still many people looking towards the depths of the mountain valley where the blood flame fruit tree was. Their eyes blazed with greed and all sorts of calculations ran through their hearts.

When they came to this mountain valley to search for treasure they had only considered it a brief adventure to temper themselves and gain experience. They never thought they would encounter such a precious treasure hidden here.

Three blood flame fruits...just news of this was sufficient to sell for a high price!

Qi Shengtian lowered his head, looking as if he were saving his strength to tear through space. He took in everyone's reactions and a cold light flashed in his eyes.

Shua –

The black light appeared once more. But this time it didn't tear through space – it instead smashed into the backs of the gathered cultivators.

In a completely unexpected situation, their protective barriers collapsed. The shaken cultivators were sent flying forward, all of them vomiting mouthfuls of blood.

“Senior-apprentice brother Qi, you...!” Angry screams filled the air, mixed with fear and disbelief.

Qi Shengtian was without expression. “My apologies, but the blood flame fruit tree can only be mine. So, my dear junior-apprentice sisters and brothers, please die.”

The blood-red tentacles weren't surprised nor did they care about honor or anything like that. Since such wonderful food was delivered to its door, it had no reason to let them go.

Screams of despair filled the air, followed by loud sounds of cracking bones and flesh. The mountain valley soon fell silent.

There were only white bones left on the ground as well as the quietly waiting Qi Shengtian. The blood-red tentacles wove together, forming a humanoid shape. A pair of empty eye sockets stared at him.

For some unknown reason, the blood-red tentacles didn't attack. They seemed to feel some sort of threat coming from this cultivator.

Qi Shengtian chuckled, his expression light. “Shouldn't you be thanking me? It is only because of me that you are able to enjoy such wonderful food filled with so much strength.”

The blood-red figure opened its mouth. A sharp scream erupted outwards like a hard nail striking into one's marrow and soul, causing space itself to shake around it.

Qi Shengtian's face became increasingly pale, but his eyes were incomparably bright and his attitude was even more relaxed. “Are you afraid? Well of course, facing someone like me with such a formidable bloodline, you should be afraid.

“You will die today. But similarly, it is also your lucky day. Because in this world, no one has ever truly experienced the power of my bloodline.

“You may call it Annihilation.”

Hum –

A layer of black light appeared, covering Qi Shengtian. His entire body fused into it. Then, it burst outwards, sweeping over the heavens and earth like a mighty tide. Its speed was ten times, a hundred times faster than lightning, so fast that there was no chance to evade.

The blood-red figure was submerged in this darkness. Screams of anger and rage roared out from within, followed by constant thundering strikes.

But the darkness really did seem to possess an all-annihilating strength. The sounds that came out became incomparably weak, and even the aura that accompanied it became as weak as a breeze, undetectable from the outside.

Gradually, the movements within the darkness grew smaller and smaller until they thoroughly vanished.

Moments later, the darkness retreated like a falling tide, condensing back into Qi Shengtian's figure. His aura was incomparably weak and he was drenched with sweat, as if he had been fished out from a lake.

But his face was covered with a bright smile. He had forcefully erupted his bloodline that had yet to completely awaken. This would surely create certain backlashes in the future. But compared to the harvest of the blood flame fruit tree, it was all worth it.

Now, everything was his!

His feet moved and Qi Shengtian shot deep into the mountain valley. But at this time, a buzzing sound appeared in his ears.

His eyes widened and a cold chill rose in his heart. However, Qi Shengtian didn't stop, nor did he turn around to look. Instead, he erupted with his final strength as he crazily hurtled towards the blood flame fruit tree.

No matter what accident had happened, as long as he took the blood flame fruit in his hands then he had the advantage.

"You are smart, your heart is cruel, and your methods are sufficiently ruthless. If you were given enough time then you would certainly become a formidable figure in the future.

"But I really am sorry. As you said, this blood flame fruit tree can only be mine. So, while I thank you for all the effort you put in, I also ask you to go underground and accompany all your fellow sect disciples who haven't travelled too far on the road to the yellow springs."

A cold voice passed straight through Qi Shengtian's heart like a winter chill. Then, he discovered that he had lost control of his body and was soaring uncontrollably high into the air.

The last thing he saw was a black-robed youth emerging from the fog.

"There's no aura at all. I, Qi Shengtian, actually died beneath the hands of an ordinary person..."

Pa –

His consciousness fell into darkness.

Qin Yu had a faint expression. He glanced at Qi Shengtian's corpse and then focused once more on the blood flame fruit tree. Joy filled his heart.

He originally thought it would be an extremely difficult process to obtain the fruit, but it had been much simpler than expected. It seems that the heavens had thought he had been too unfortunate lately so they decided to adjust his luck a little.

He immediately dispelled this absurd thought. Qin Yu ruthlessly stomped on Big Pig who was about to plunge toward the blood flame fruit tree, and walked forward.

If this fellow was so impatient then there shouldn't be any dangers. Still, it was best to be careful. With a thought, Qin Yu commanded the ant swarm to fly forward and pluck the three blood flame fruits.

The fruits were separated from the tree. At that moment, the vibrant fruit tree that seemed to be covered in flames immediately withered away. With the next gust of wind, it was reduced to powder.

Qin Yu quietly thought this was a pity. He had thoughts of extinguishing the blood flame fruit tree and moving it away so he could further cultivate it in the future. But when he saw the three blood flame fruits delivered to him, his mood improved once more.

After quickly appraising them and determining that they were precious treasures that could nourish the body, he couldn't help but clench his fists together and cheer.

"Big Pig, listen well to me. If you even dare to touch these three fruits, I'll skin you alive and turn you into a lantern!"

Rescuing the old man was the top priority right now; it wasn't the time to swallow them. After severely warning Big Pig, he placed the fruits in Big Pig's independent space.

This strange independent space had powerful secondary effects. It was similar to a sealed jade box. If the blood flame fruits were placed inside, their potency wouldn't flow out.

One of life's greatest sorrows was to have good things in your own pocket but be unable to use them or even touch them...the life of a pig was so hard!

Chapter 683 - Unexpectedly Smooth

Even though Big Pig was filled with indignation and resentment, there was nowhere for him to vent it. He pranced over to Qi Shengtian's corpse and ransacked everything he could. When there was nothing left but a pair of undergarments and he felt a bit more comfortable, he finally decided to stop.

Qin Yu allowed this fellow to do as he pleased; he found it hard to show any sort of post-mortem high-mindedness towards Qi Shengtian. Just as he was about to call Big Pig over to leave, his eyes suddenly shrank.

He quickly hurried over and flipped Qi Shengtian's corpse. As expected, the part of the corpse that touched the ground was beginning to show signs of decay.

The thick flesh and blood goo hadn't yet dyed the ground red. Rather, it seemed to be eaten up cleanly by some great mouth underneath.

Qin Yu looked at the ground below and his eyebrows furrowed together. He had personally watched as the blood-red tentacles were thoroughly disintegrated in the darkness. But this sight could only mean...that it hadn't truly died yet!

Even though it hadn't died it must surely have used up a great deal of strength. Otherwise it was impossible for it to watch helplessly as Qin Yu took away the blood flame fruits.

Qin Yu's eyes flashed repeatedly. He finally kicked Big Pig and said, "I'm going to give you a chance to get rich. Take a good smell of the ground below and see if any treasure is hidden here."

Big Pig shook his head again and again, giving Qin Yu a look as if asking if everyone thought he was an idiot. Big Pig had a clear understanding of how terrifying those blood-red tentacles were.

Qin Yu shook his head, "I never thought you would still be so smart."

Big Pig humphed out loud, revealing a spirited and valorous expression. What ridiculous nonsense, as the mighty king of the pig race, he was impossibly fierce and intelligent!

Qin Yu's complexion darkened. "If you don't want to do things the easy way then we can only do things the hard way. Hurry up and search underground."

Big Pig was left stunned. It seemed he had forgotten that he had become Qin Yu's blood-raised beast. Facing this order, he had no ability to resist it.

This is tyranny! This is dictatorship over the life of a pig! I protest! I seriously protest!

But if protesting was useful then this world would have long been peaceful and harmonious. Why would there be so many grudges and gratitude, arguments between what is right or wrong?

While Big Pig carried a hundred refusals in his heart, he still put his nose to the ground and started sniffing. This was because it was Qin Yu's official order and his instincts left him unable to play any tricks. He could only pray that there was nothing below.

But reality was often contrary to expectations. After careful investigation, Big Pig 'smelled' a different aura. It smelled of blood but was actually...fragrant.

These were two clearly opposite auras that even stood in conflict with each other. But, they fused together, becoming even more enticing.

Beyond his control, Big Pig began to drool. Then it flowed like a river, splashing down onto the ground.

Awo –

With an excited roar, Big Pig threw himself into the ground. His two tusks stabbed into the earth, swinging around like shovels as he wildly dug down.

Qin Yu discovered something wasn't right but he didn't stop anything. He watched as an incredibly deep hole was dug out in an amazingly short period of time.

Moments later, a sharp, panic-filled scream echoed out from the hole. Big Pig flew out, his black steel needle-like fur covered in patches of red that looked like paint.

But if one looked carefully, they would discover that this red color constantly wriggled about, trying to drill into Big Pig's body.

Unfortunately this pig's black fur had been tempered multiple times and had even gone through the baptism of the spatial black hole. It had long since become as thick and powerful as a city wall. Even though the strange red liquid wriggled about for a long time it still couldn't corrode through the fur's defenses.

Qin Yu thought that things really were as he expected. He shouted out loud, "Stop!"

A formidable suppression that came from the bloodline level caused Big Pig to immediately lose all strength. He plopped to the ground, gasping for breath.

"Master, save me! Master, save me!"

Qin Yu's lips twitched. He quickly shouted, "You idiot, have you not discovered that it can't harm you at all!?"

Big Pig was overcome for a moment. Then, as soon as he realized that this was indeed true, he was immediately invigorated as he shouted, "Little thing, do you bully anyone you see? Do you not know how thick the iron of the gate is!?"

Big Pig wildly shook his body with a roll. As he did, the thick red color came rolling off him. It didn't sink into the soil but quickly converged into one whole.

Then, this thing that seemed like fruit jello flew towards Qi Shengtian's corpse. Before it could get far, it was crushed by Big Pig's hoof. Big Pig ginned and said, "Little thing, after harming this pig grandfather and causing me to lose face, don't think things will end so easily!"

He opened his mouth, about to bite down.

"Close your mouth." Qin Yu lightly said.

Big Pig's mouth was less than an inch away from the 'fruit jello'. He stiffened for a moment and looked up with great difficulty, "Master...I...was too excited...this thing...I'll hand it over to you..."

Wuwuwu...why must my life be so painstaking. This time it came right near my mouth, I was just this close to eating it!

After being flung to the ground, the 'fruit jello' quickly lost its vitality. As if the very air itself was poison, it soon died.

But its death meant that one aspect of the dangerous aura was gone. The smell of blood disappeared, leaving behind only that enticing fragrance.

Qin Yu faintly smiled. "Put it away. We'll study it again in the future."

This thing was definitely connected to the terrifying blood-red tentacles from before. Until he could discern exactly what it was, it was impossible to eat it no matter how fragrant it smelled.

He gave a kick to the listless Big Pig, "Let's go!"

The loud sounds of battle had a high chance of attracting attention. Since he had already obtained the benefits he wanted in coming here, it was best to leave as soon as possible. 'Fearing changes that came

late' wasn't just an expression. Through the countless years, innumerable previous generations had paid their life and blood to discover the truth behind this.

After cleaning up the scene a little, Qin Yu quickly started to walk out from the valley. He soon saw the female cultivator who was stranded in the array formation before.

It was just that her current condition was much worse than expected. Her body was covered in cuts, and blood nearly soaked her clothes.

Qin Yu soon realized why she was in such a pitiful state. After Qi Shengtian died, the power he thrust into the female cultivator's body dispersed, leaving her unable to withstand the impact of magic power.

He rubbed his nose. Considering all things, he had some degree of responsibility in this matter.

But the one who plotted against this female cultivator wasn't him, nor was he the one who brought her into this deathtrap of a natural array formation. He had no need to provoke unnecessary troubles for himself.

Moreover, Qin Yu couldn't expose his current status. It would be best for him if no one knew he came to this mountain valley today.

As a human, one needed to have a bottom line. But, she was neither friend nor family and Qin Yu didn't want to place himself in a needlessly dangerous situation. He closed his eyes and when he opened them again he continued to walk out from the valley once more, as if he never saw this female cultivator who was on the verge of death.

But then Big Pug suddenly stopped. His eyes stared tightly at the female cultivator within the array formation and he said, "Master, as a great monster on the verge of evolution, I am filled with curiosity towards human females. Since she is about to die soon, how about letting me take her out so I can study the differences between the women of my pig race and the women of humanity. I ask master to consent!"

Qin Yu's eyes flashed as he looked at the female cultivator. He nodded and said, "Alright."

"I praise you, my most benevolent master!" Big Pig impatiently rushed into the array formation like a bolt of black lightning. The heaven and earth spiritual strength here had already been exhausted, so even though a few attacks rained down on his body, there wasn't any pain at all.

Hehehehe, little young beauty, this pig grandfather is here!

Mu Xuan had used up all her strength and because she had lost too much blood, her field of vision flashed black. So when she suddenly saw a wild pig rushing towards her with such a wretched gaze in its eyes, a horrifying thought appeared in her mind and she fainted.

Big Pig was stunned. Looking at the fainted Mu Xuan, 10,000 horses rampaged through his heart.

Hey, what is the meaning of this? Just what is the meaning of this? After seeing the handsome and heroic king of the pig race, you were actually scared to the point of fainting?

Are you saying that I am a clown? Or I am so ugly that I am scary? Haha...hahaha....let alone anyone else, I especially cannot endure this!

“Save her. What are you waiting for?” Qin Yu’s voice sounded out.

Big Pig clenched his teeth. He had business to take care of right now. He couldn’t expose himself. In the future, he would train this little girl well so that she would become his most supportive and loyal maid!

Placing Mu Xuan on his back, Big Pig hopped back out. With an impatient expression he said, “Master, please wait a moment. I will be fast!”

Although these words were a great loss of face, when it came to one’s own interests, what was the use of face?

“Hold on.” Qin Yu reached out a hand and smiled, saying, “This isn’t a good place to stay around in. Let’s bring her out first.”

Big Pig couldn’t oppose this logic. He could only hollowly laugh and commend his master’s wisdom.

Buzz –

As they left the mountain valley the ant swarm came and picked up the two people and one pig, rapidly flying away.

Because the process of obtaining the blood flame fruits was unexpectedly smooth, Qin Yu had a great deal of time left over. After the ant swarm flew a relatively safe distance away, they landed back down.

“Master, do you need to inspect the blood flame fruits? I will take them out right now. Don’t worry, I understand the rules. I will take this woman away immediately. You have no need to worry, I will be waiting for you outside.”

Outside a cave entrance, Big Pig had a very understanding and sensible expression.

Qin Yu faintly smiled. “Is that so? It looks like you are very thirsty, but all you thirst for is this woman’s body, right? If so, then you shouldn’t be interested in the items on her body. Just leave them to me.”

Big Pig: ...

What are you doing! Qin Yu, what are you doing!?

Can we please follow the script just once? Why must you be like this every time! Every time you must seize the food from the pig’s mouth. This is the third time! The third time! Do you really think I won’t go crazy!?

Qin Yu squinted his eyes and stared at the raging Big Pig. He said, “What, do you have an opinion?”

“I do...” Big Pig erupted in anger. But when he saw Qin Yu’s eyes, it was like a bucket of cold water was tossed over him. His voice fell and he quietly said, “...I have no opinion! Master, you are the greatest! Do whatever you want to do; I will follow your will.”

Qin Yu nodded in satisfaction, “Then take off the things on her body.”

Without any refusal, even though Big Pig was in great inner anguish, he calmly took off her magic tools and placed them on the ground. Ring, pearl ornament, necklace...

When he took off the bracelet that seemed to flow with starlight, Qin Yu discovered that Big Pig's hooves were trembling and his lips were twitching.

This was it! Without giving Big Pig a chance to do anything, Qin Yu bent over and took the bracelet away. He lightly said, "This thing is a bit interesting."

He indeed discovered that Big Pig's expression was like dying embers. Big Pig stiffly nodded.

Qin Yu's happiness was even greater. He looked earnestly at this bracelet. Just what was so unusual about it that it could arouse Big Pig's interest?

Chapter 684 - Chain of Stars

Although Qin Yu was filled with suspicion about this fellow's moral character, he acknowledged his eyesight when it came to treasure. For Big Pig to say something so humiliating like he would be fast, there must be something about this bracelet that made it worth losing so much face.

But what left Qin Yu puzzled was that he didn't sense any formidable aura from the bracelet. There were only some fluctuations that seemed to have protective functions for the soul.

Perhaps it was because his cultivation dropped and his eyesight fell with it. He glanced over at Big Pig's depressed appearance and affirmed his guess.

He would put this away first. Once his cultivation was restored and he carefully examined it, perhaps there would be other harvests.

But at this moment, Qin Yu could sense a strange fluctuation in mood coming from Big Pig through his connection of being his blood-raised beast. He seemed to be filled with shock.

Qin Yu narrowed his eyes. "What did you discover? Tell me what secret is hiding in this bracelet. This is an order!"

Big Pig lifted a hoof and opened up a spatial crack. A blood red light flew out. Then, the bracelet in Qin Yu's hand erupted with an even brighter light. Stars appeared in this light, like an endless river of stars.

An invisible strength was released. It drew in the blood red light so that it fell onto the bracelet. When they touched, the blood red light dissolved, turning into some sort of liquid that covered the bracelet. In the next instant it was absorbed cleanly away.

Qin Yu's eyes subconsciously widened. He watched as the dark blue surface of the bracelet vanished like paper engulfed in flames, revealing a dark golden surface beneath. Countless complex and exquisite patterns overlapped each other, weaving together into a mysterious design.

He had already seen that the blood red light which was absorbed was the blood tentacle thing that Big Pig had dug out from the ground just now.

But why was that thing able to be absorbed by this bracelet and why would such an astonishing change occur?

It was like the original outside surface was a layer of camouflage or even a seal. And now it had been broken for some reason and the bracelet's original appearance was revealed.

Before Qin Yu could think about this more, the stars released by the transformed bracelet rapidly enlarged, turning into truly shining stars that emitted a vast brilliance.

This light was like a sea of stars. A suction force suddenly appeared. Qin Yu secretly thought that the situation wasn't good, but there was no time for him to react.

His mind flipped upside down. When his consciousness was restored, he looked around and was left stunned – because at this moment, he was placed in an endless sea of stars. All around him were incomparably large stars.

Standing in front of a star, Qin Yu seemed to pass through the clouds and mountains beneath. As if he were a small and weak ant, awe and shock arose from the depths of his soul.

Suddenly, the peaceful stars in this sea started to slowly rotate. They emitted a loud thundering that came from the highest heavens, carrying with it an unparalleled penetrating and destructive power that could crush everything into powder.

Qin Yu instantly felt the terror of these stars. They were like a million mountains suppressing him. And as time passed, this suppression only became increasingly small.

“Ahh!”

Qin Yu howled in pain. At this time, he felt as if he could burst apart from being squeezed at any moment.

“Give up! This strength isn't something you can withstand!”

“To be buried in the sea of stars is an honor only the most revered powerhouses can enjoy! With your small and weak cultivation, you should be gratified that you can do this!”

“Why resist and suffer needless pain? Deliverance is right in front of you, as long as you wish for it.”

Countless thoughts rushed through his mind. Qin Yu's eyes glazed over and innumerable cracks appeared on the surface of his body.

The stars spun faster and faster. The loud rumbling sounds they emitted were like the mocking laughs of giants. A low and humble human ant actually dared to rush into the interrogation of the stars.

“No! I won't give up! I won't die! I can't!”

Because Qin Yu was under immense pressure, his eyes were blood red and blood vessels bulged all over his body. He looked up at the surrounding stars and angrily roared out loud.

With just you, you want to kill me? That is far from enough!

In the cave, when the bracelet was restored to its original appearance an invisible strength had arrived. The surrounding space instantly froze, becoming like a giant block of solid ice.

Big Pig's widened eyes were full of panic and horror. But, his expression was still stuck in one of sorrow when he discovered Qin Yu had broken through the treasure. When these two sights were contrasted with each other, they seemed particularly strange and funny.

Big Pig had no idea what was happening, but it was definitely related to the bracelet that Qin Yu took.

After trying every method to escape and failing, Big Pig dejectedly gave up. He could only place all his hopes on Qin Yu.

But at this time, his heart ruthlessly shrank and a great sense of fear and horror rose up within him. This ability was one he had obtained after becoming the king of the pig race – foresight of danger!

After obtaining this ability, it had helped him survive numerous difficult situations. But there had never been a time when it gave off such a terrifying feeling.

It was like the world was about to collapse, and all lives swept up in this chaos would be delivered into the abyss of destruction and death. No one would be able to avoid this.

However, the cave remained quiet and still, without anything unusual happening. So why did he suddenly sense such a horrifying destructive feeling?

Big Pig tried hard to turn his eyes. Finally, he discovered differences in the ‘frozen’ Qin Yu.

Just from looking at Qin Yu, Big Pig could sense an incomparably terrifying oppression pushing down on him, as if invisible stars were suppressing him.

The fear in his heart rose. Because Big Pig knew that if he were to suffer this suppression, he would have long since died.

But even if Qin Yu could last, how long could he last? Once his body collapsed and he perished, then as Qin Yu’s blood-raised beast, he would be buried along with his master.

Big Pig finally realized why his foresight of danger ability would be triggered and to such a terrifying degree. Tears filled his eyes, but because of the invisible imprisonment they wouldn’t flow down. His field of vision began to blur over.

If Big Pig could choose, he would have rather not discovered the aura of treasure on Mu Xuan’s body. But, time couldn’t be reversed. With things having come to this point, there was no way to reverse it.

Big Pig thought about the Elder who had pushed him onto the throne of the Pig King. The Elder had warned him that he couldn’t abuse the talents that the heavens had granted the pig race to take things that weren’t his. Otherwise, the karma he accumulated would grow more and more until it would one day erupt and strike back at him.

Was it time for this backlash to occur? Big Pig was filled with despair!

Suddenly there was a light cracking sound. Following that, the terrifying strength that covered the cave instantly vanished.

With space restored, the tears that Big Pig had saved up now flowed down without reservation. They crashed to the ground, forming a puddle.

“I...didn’t die...I really didn’t die...”

Big Pig sobbed with joy.

Qin Yu opened his eyes. His pupils were dark and weary, filled with exhaustion. He only had time to glance at the bracelet in his hands and watch as it disappeared into motes of starlight before his consciousness fell into darkness.

He slept for a long time without any dreams at all. When he opened his eyes, not only was his energy restored but he felt an unprecedented state of relaxedness.

Although he couldn't mobilize any magic power like before, he could actually see his own soul space.

His soul was covered in cracks, as if it had been forcefully glued together. But now, the surface of his soul was covered in a radiant chain of stars. They crossed paths with the broken runes that floated around.

"Chain of Stars – was produced from some unknown land and was inherited in this world for a long time. It is an unsurpassed treasure of the soul. Not only does it have a formidable defensive power, but it can be used to suppress and to heal..." This information appeared on its own initiative. Because Qin Yu had rushed through the interrogation of the stars, he had become the new master of this precious treasure which had been lost in the endless flow of time.

There were also many other mysteries. For instance, why would the Chain of Stars appear on the wrist of such a weak and young female cultivator? For instance, why was the main body of those blood-red tentacles able to unravel the seal on the Chain of Stars?

Even if Qin Yu couldn't obtain an explanation for these riddles, he was still able to confirm that he had obtained a harvest surpassing his imagination.

With the help of the Chain of Stars, although he couldn't figure out how to overcome his difficult situation, it should be able to buy him some more time. It wouldn't be like before, where he felt the approach of death with every breath he took – the result of using the Ashes and Embers secret art in a severely wounded condition. Although Solitary Westgate had given him a sort of 'isolation' that could slow down the combustion of his soul, his journey through the spatial black hole had caused a breakage to appear on this isolation.

Despite there being no pain, the feeling of knowing that his soul was moving towards destruction with every passing moment was enough to cause one's mind to collapse.

Hu –

He let out a long breath. Qin Yu suddenly felt that this dim cave had become much more beautiful. Thus, when he turned and saw the anxious Mu Xuan nearby, he revealed a happy expression.

No matter what was said, the Chain of Stars had been this girl's treasure. If it was only an ordinary treasure, then Qin Yu would naturally think he deserved it for saving her life.

But now...he felt that he should be a little nicer to her.

Chapter 685A – Turmoil at Parasol Tree Mountain

When Mu Xuan woke up, she found she was in this cave. She also found that there was a man as well as a restless wild pig.

At first glance she recognized that this wild pig was the one that had appeared before her just as she fell unconscious. Thus, that dreadfully grotesque expression it had before also reappeared in her mind.

In particular, what caused Mu Xuan to collapse was that all the items on her body had been taken away. A horrifying thought crossed her mind, one that left her deathly pale!

Luckily, the agitated and restless Big Pig had no interest in bothering with this nonsense. He coldly shouted, "Stop being so disgusting, this grandpa pig has no interest in you!"

Mu Xuan relaxed. She glanced at Qin Yu. If it was him, although she would still feel grief and indignation, she felt as if she could accept it.

Big Pig smiled with anger. This young girl, was her brain filled with nothing but tofu? Could she not take a look at her current situation before indulging herself in such fanciful thoughts!?

After severely scolding Mu Xuan, he made her sit to the side quietly. Big Pig only hoped that Qin Yu would wake up soon. If he suffered an accident, then this pig would also suffer bad luck.

Thus, when Qin Yu woke up and revealed a smile, Big Pig was extremely excited. "Master, my most respected master, my most formidable master, you are finally awake!"

This warm and close attitude left Qin Yu puzzled. He reached out a hand and pushed away the pig head that came sniffing close to him. "How long was I unconscious for?"

"A little less than half a day."

Qin Yu relaxed a little; he was glad he didn't screw things up. He stood up and looked at Mu Xuan. She hurriedly got to her feet, her expression ill and nervous.

After some hesitation, Qin Yu said, "I was the one who rescued you and I have already taken the reward for doing so; it is the bracelet you carried with you. Now, the account between us has been settled. You may take your things and leave."

Big Pig's lips twitched. You were clearly the one who was cruel and wanted to abandon her, and wasn't it me who decided to go and help her? You took all the sentiment and advantages; consider yourself sufficiently ruthless!

Mu Xuan widened her eyes and nodded. She immediately composed herself and bowed repeatedly. "Thank you senior, thank you senior!" She knelt down and picked up all her things before hurrying away, afraid that Qin Yu would go back on his word.

The sound of footsteps travelled far away before turning back. Seeing the ambling Mu Xuan return to the cave, Qin Yu couldn't help but furrow his eyebrows. "You aren't leaving?"

Mu Xuan was given a fright. She quickly said, "No, that's not it...my...my injuries are heavy right now...and...I'm not familiar with this area...senior...could you..."

Qin Yu's eyebrows tightened even further. "You should have some sort of help-requesting token with you, right?"

Mu Xuan lowered her head, her face flushing red.

Qin Yu was left speechless. It seemed this girl had forgotten to bring the most basic of items. Without this sort of common knowledge, she still dared to come out with others to search for treasures. No wonder she had been tricked!

Seeing Qin Yu's gloomy face, Mu Xuan was even more depressed. "Senior, rest assured...I wouldn't waste your time...I live at Parasol Tree Mountain...if you bring me there you will definitely receive a generous reward...moreover...moreover..."

She couldn't finish her words; she even began to drip sweat.

Qin Yu's thoughts turned. The place where this female cultivator lived was sure to have a great number of cultivators.

The blood flame fruit could repair the mortal body and destroy the curse strength. But, it was too strong and giving it to Old Man Zhou as it would be too risky.

At best, he could supplement it with other materials and refine it into a pill with a temperate potency...if so, he might as well take this female cultivator home and search for an alchemist while he was at it...

"How far is Parasol Tree Mountain from here?"

Mu Xuan had an uncertain look. "I don't know exactly where it is, but it is around 20,000 miles east of the mountain valley."

As she spoke to her she carefully looked up, her heart racing.

Qin Yu didn't seem to realize her look. He quietly calculated the time. Then he loudly said, "Let's go!" He began to walk out of the cave, Mu Xuan following close behind.

Suddenly, a loud buzzing sound came from all around. Purpleback bluewing ants flew in from all directions.

Mu Xuan screamed, her complexion paling further.

Qin Yu lightly said, "These are just spirit insects I raised."

With a thought, the ant swarm picked up the group and howled away in the direction of Parasol Tree Mountain.

Looking at the surprised Mu Xuan who had an expression of awe on her face, Big Pig humphed to himself. This girl was far too naive!

Qin Yu's ant swarm was far larger than this. Not only did he frighten her and prevent her from talking, but he also hid the majority of his strength to deal with any future unexpected situations...hm, what a sinister young man!

...

Ten miles away from Parasol Tree Mountain, the ant swarm landed in a gap between the mountains. Qin Yu said without expression. "You've arrived."

Mu Xuan had a grateful expression. "Thank you for bringing me back senior." Seeing that Qin Yu had no thoughts of conversing with her, she respectfully bowed and took several steps away.

But just as she took several steps, Qin Yu's voice lightly sounded out, "You got lost in the mountains and I brought you back here. That's it. That's everything."

A cold sweat immediately formed all over Mu Xuan and she shivered from an invisible coldness. It was only when she walked far away that she felt a little bit warmer.

This senior was scary...he must be dreadfully strong. It seemed that senior-apprentice brother Qi and the others wouldn't be returning.

Mu Xuan shook her head. With her cultivation, she couldn't have done anything to them. Even if others were to investigate what happened, no one would suspect her.

After determining that Mu Xuan had left, Qin Yu gave Big Pig a kick. The latter coughed out loud and his body began to rapidly shrink until he was reduced to the size of a mouse. Then, he climbed up Qin Yu's body and sat on his shoulder.

There were certain dangers in searching for a destiny so he had to form a disguise for himself. For instance, if he were to carry a miniature pig on his shoulders that was emanating monster energy, others would think he wasn't some common person and he would be able to save a great deal of trouble for himself.

After ordering the ant swarm to hide, Qin Yu walked towards Parasol Tree Mountain.

...

Mu Tong looked up at the golden characters of Sky Declaring Pavilion written atop the black signboard, a confused look on his face.

To specifically send someone to request him to come, was there another auction?

But that didn't seem right. With his status and identity, he didn't have the qualifications to be informed alone.

He shook his head and suppressed these thoughts. When he walked into the building, someone stepped forth and said, "Fellow daoist Mu has arrived. Please follow me."

The one who spoke was a man with a pale face and thin figure. His slender eyes gave a sharp and astute feeling. He glanced over Mu Tong for a moment before furrowing his eyebrows. However, he soon hid this expression away.

Mu Tong was flattered. This person across from him was a chief manager-level character of Sky Declaring Pavilion. Even he had only seen this person at the auction several times and he never received such treatment before. He hurriedly smiled and bowed in return, but his heart was racing.

If everything happening was so unusual, there had to be something wrong!

They entered an extravagantly decorated private room. When Mu Tong saw the three people inside drinking tea, he could no longer hide the shock on his face. He took half a step forward and bowed, "Mu Tong greets Elder Liu Zang, Grandmaster Qi, and Miss Feng Qing!"

No, this wasn't right. There had to be something wrong today. Mu Tong remained in a still bowing motion, beads of sweat forming on his forehead.

Elder Liu Zang was a true authority-possessing Elder in the sect. The difference between this Elder and a young deacon like him was far too great.

Grandmaster Qi was the most renowned alchemy grandmaster in the surrounding regions of Parasol Tree Mountain. He had broad social connections and was able to speak on even terms with the sect master.

As for Miss Feng Qing, she was the chief manager of Sky Declaring Pavilion. No one knew her true identity. However, the Sky Declaring Pavilion that was spread over the First Moon Mountain Range was in itself an extremely terrifying super influence, thus as its public spokesperson, no one dared to underestimate her.

The three of them had gathered here together, waiting for a minor figure like him. Yes, that was right. In front of these three people, Mu Tong was well aware that he was nothing but a minor character who was far too common and humble.

Chapter 685B – Turmoil at Parasol Tree Mountain

Elder Liu Zang had a cold look. It was said he always treated people without any lies or hypocrisy, but right now he had a faint smile on his face. He took the lead and said, "Mu Tong, I will get straight to the point with you. The reason why I called you here today is that Grandmaster Qi wishes to purchase something from you. I and Miss Feng Qing are both willing to serve as witnesses. You can rest assured that Grandmaster Qi will give you a sufficient reward so that you do not suffer a loss."

Mu Tong was stunned. Their Mu Family had fallen many years ago and all their good treasures had been taken away or sold off. What could Grandmaster Qi possibly have taken a liking to?

Even though he was bewildered, he hurriedly said, "Elder, there is no need to speak so seriously. I have always received the care of the sect. If Grandmaster Qi has anything he needs, then he could just have told me and I would have given it to him. There is no need to waste the time of you, Grandmaster Qi, or Miss Feng Qing."

His words gave sufficient face.

Elder Liu Zang's smile thickened. He waved his hand and said, "That's not right. Otherwise, if news of this were to spread out, who knows what sort of rumors would begin."

Looking at Mu Tong's attitude, this was a done deal as long as he spoke up. To obtain a favor from Grandmaster Qi for such a simple matter, this was far too easy.

With a light cough, Elder Liu Zang continued, "Three months ago, at a small trade fair held at Sky Declaring Pavilion, you purchased a bracelet that benefits the soul, right? Grandmaster Qi is willing to purchase it back from you at five times the cost. Do you agree to this?"

Mu Tong's complexion stiffened. He sputtered, at a loss for words.

Grandmaster Qi's eyebrows furrowed together. "If that isn't enough, I can offer ten times the price."

Elder Liu Zang's face darkened, thinking that this was a loss of face. "Mu Tong, do you agree?"

Feng Qing smiled and watched everything occur. She just happened to be at today's meeting as a witness, with the only reason being to form better relations with Grandmaster Qi. Thus, she naturally didn't speak.

Across from them, Mu Tong's face was pale and streaming with sweat. "Grandmaster, Elder, please do not misunderstand. It isn't because I am greedy, but because the bracelet isn't in my hands."

He explained the situation in full detail.

Grandmaster Qi's complexion darkened. He had used up a massive amount of time and energy to find the whereabouts of that thing, but now another unexpected turn of events had come.

Elder Liu Zang said, "Who did Mu Xuan go with? When will she be back?"

Mu Tong forced a smile, "I have no idea!"

The room fell silent. Mu Tong quietly complained in his heart, his robes nearly drenched with sweat.

Grandmaster Qi and Elder Liu Zang quietly spoke to each other. Then, Elder Liu Zang said, "Mu Tong, contact Mu Xuan immediately and tell her that she needs to return to Parasol Tree Mountain!"

"Or I can send people to meet her." Grandmaster Qi said.

Feng Qing's eyes brightened. It seemed that this bracelet was extremely important. Just who had sold it from Sky Declaring Pavilion and hadn't seen the truth behind it? After all, it wasn't easy to be on good terms with Grandmaster Qi.

She thought about it and decided to establish guidelines in the future to prevent careless mistakes like this from happening again.

Mu Tong hurriedly said, "I will immediately contact Mu Xuan and have her return!"

Elder Liu Zang waved his hand and Mu Tong respectfully drew back. When he left Sky Declaring Pavilion, he instantly leapt up and burst away, "You little brat, I told you not to go so why didn't you listen to me!? You must take good care of that bracelet otherwise our Mu Family is done for!"

As if he had caught fire, he flew back to the Mu Family residence. He opened the door and rushed in, soon finding the last remaining bloodline sensing treasure of the Mu Family. It could be used to transmit simple information to others of the same bloodline.

When Mu Tong heard the receiving end of the signaling spirit bead ringing in Mu Xuan's room, he almost collapsed where he stood.

"This brainless and reckless girl, she actually didn't take the signaling spirit bead with her!"

Just as his heart was beginning to fill with discomfort, he heard the sound of the courtyard doors opening. Mu Xuan sobbed and said, "Uncle, I'm back...I'm scared, I almost didn't manage to come home. I'm never going to leave again."

Mu Tong rushed out. He grasped Mu Xuan with his hands and said, "You silly girl, you've finally returned! Now hurry up and give me back the..."

His eyes flew open. Looking at her clear and bare wrists, it was like he had been stuck on the head with a stick. His field of vision darkened and his ears began to buzz.

"Bracelet! Where is the bracelet I gave you!? Little lady, please don't scare me here!"

The sad and aggrieved Mu Xuan was stunned. Just what crimes did I commit? I barely managed to return alive and not only are you not saying any words of comfort, asking me what happened, or even guiding me, but you directly asked for your bracelet back and you are even shouting so loudly at me!

Uncle really doesn't love me!

Wa...I want to cry...wawa...I'm really going to cry...

Mu Tong's face darkened and he was immediately thrown into confusion. Finally, he managed to coax her into stopping crying. He said, "Mu Xuan, don't be like this, just tell me where the bracelet is right now, uncle really needs it."

Mu Xuan sobbed, "Bracelet...I...I...gave it away..."

Before he could even take another breath, Mu Tong fell backwards. He crashed into the ground with a loud bang, giving Mu Xuan a fright.

"Uncle, what is wrong? Don't scare me!"

Mu Tong had a pale face, "It's over, it's all over now!" Soon, as if grasping onto the final thread of hope, he anxiously looked at her and asked, "Who did you give it to? Where is he now?"

Mu Xuan shook her head, "He brought me back to Parasol Tree Mountain and left. I have no idea..." She immediately had a nervous expression, "Uncle, what is it?"

Mu Tong was helplessly slumped to the ground. "It's fine, it's fine...you don't need to bother with it."

With things already having come this far, what use would there be in explaining it to her? It would only make her feel even guiltier.

Perhaps this was fate. Their Mu Family was fated to perish in their lifetime. They had struggled so hard to find a turning point in their lives, but in the blink of an eye they were to be thrust into the abyss.

From the manner in which Elder Liu Zang and Grandmaster Qi acted, the bracelet was extremely important to them. Now that it was lost, he was bound to be implicated in the ensuing mess.

"Mu Xuan, how did things go when you went out and searched for treasure? Did you find anything good?"

Mu Tong had already decided to shoulder all of the responsibility. As he thought about how he might never see Mu Xuan ever again, his gaze filled with affection.

“Uncle, I almost died outside.”

Mu Xuan finally had a chance to explain what had happened. However, there was a place where she made a revision; she stated that she rushed out of the array formation alone. “Afterwards, I lost my way. Luckily that senior helped me, otherwise I wouldn’t have returned alive. He was the one I gave my bracelet to.”

After a short pause, she quietly said, “Uncle, are you really alright?”

Mu Tong clenched his teeth. “Those bastards! They dare to treat you like that!? I’m glad they all died!” His thoughts raced and he continued to say, “Qi Shengtian and the rest of those bastards, from the very start they brought you along as a potential tool to sacrifice. This is why they never said anything to anyone about their treasure search. But things are even better this way. Just pretend as if you don’t know anything about this matter. Never say that you were involved with them.”

Grandmaster Qi was Qi Shengtian’s uncle. Even Elder Liu Zhang knew nothing about him, so this was without doubt proof of his motivations.

Mu Xuan hurriedly nodded, “I understand, uncle.”

Suddenly, the courtyard doors were thrust open from outside, “Mu Tong, since your niece has returned, hurry back with us!”

It was people from Sky Declaring Pavilion. Seeing the smirk of the pale-faced and thin steward, Mu Tong’s heart sank; they had been monitoring this place the entire time.

He feared that bracelet was far more precious than he first imagined.

Mu Tong’s face drained of color. He squeezed out a smile, “Steward Bai...an accident has occurred...Mu Xuan lost her bracelet...”

Steward Bai’s complexion turned impossibly white. “Lost? Are you sure you lost it? Fellow daoist Mu, smart people should know what things they can do and what things they must absolutely never try...don’t you think so?”

Mu Tong bitterly said, “It really is lost! Otherwise even if I had a heart as great as the heavens I still wouldn’t dare to hide something that Grandmaster Qi wanted!”

Steward Bai took a deep breath, “You must explain this matter to the grandmaster yourself!”

Mu Tong glanced at Mu Xuan, indicating for her to remember the words he said just a moment ago. “I’ll leave with you.”

“Miss Mu Xuan will come with you.”

“Steward Bai...”

“She will come with you!”

Steward Bai turned and huffed away, his face incomparably dark. He had followed Miss Feng Qing's order and trailed Mu Tong, all in order to prevent needless troubles and also to leave behind a better impression for Grandmaster Qi. He never thought that this would be the result.

Things had become troublesome now!

Sky Declaring Pavilion, private room.

Grandmaster Qi stood up, his expression fierce. "You lost the bracelet? You're telling me that you lost the bracelet!?"

A terrifying aura erupted from him. The air thundered and the tea set on the table was smashed to pieces.

Mu Tong paled and blood dripped out from the corners of his lips. He trembled beneath this terrifying aura, not even capable of speaking.

Mu Xuan hadn't recovered from her previous injuries to begin with. Now, she spat out a mouthful of blood and fell unconscious.

Elder Liu Zhang clenched his teeth. "Mu Tong, I will give you one more chance to hand over the bracelet. If you do, I won't investigate this any further!"

The deeper meaning behind this was that if he continued to remain thickheaded, then don't blame this old man for being impolite!

Grandmaster Qi took a deep breath and restrained his aura. Mu Tong repeatedly bowed his head to the floor. "Grandmaster, Elder, the bracelet truly was lost. I don't have the courage to dare to deceive you two!"

Grandmaster Qi fell back onto the chair behind him. He sank in, his eyes closed and deep in thought.

The private room was deathly silent. Mu Tong streamed with sweat. He knew that the fate of him and his niece would soon be decided.

Chapter 686A – 'Great Person'

Not long after Qin Yu entered the city, he spent some time finding information about the area. For instance, the strongest provider of alchemy services as well as the one with the best reputation was the organization known as Sky Declaring Pavilion.

From other aspects, he was able to confirm information related to Sky Declaring Pavilion. In his heart, he had already made up his mind. This sort of powerful chain store-like institution usually placed a premium on their own reputation. If he were to use them then he might be able to save himself a great deal of trouble.

Of course, it was impossible for Qin Yu to take out all of the blood flame fruits. With half for a pill and the other half as a reward, that should be enough to eliminate the other party's greed.

This was a decision that Qin Yu came to after deliberating upon it on the way here. At this time, he had already arrived outside Sky Declaring Pavilion. He glanced around the area and walked in.

Unlike other places, Sky Declaring Pavilion wouldn't come to greet guests on their own initiative. They would only send out a specialist to greet a guest after determining there was a need.

Qin Yu walked to the alchemy services area. With a beckoning wave and a smile, a female cultivator walked over. "Dear guest, is there anything you need?" After seeing the piglet on Qin Yu's shoulder, her expression became warmer.

"I want some pills refined."

The female cultivator's smile brightened. "Will you be supplying materials yourself or purchasing them from Sky Declaring Pavilion?"

"Supplying myself."

The female cultivator gestured to the side. "Dear guest, please come with me. After determining the rank of your materials, I will be able to recommend an appropriate alchemist for you."

After walking through the throngs of people in the alchemy service area, they soon came upon a white building with a black door. There were over a dozen of these buildings scattered around.

After waiting a moment, the stone building opened from within and a cultivator walked out. The female cultivator smiled and said, "It's your turn now. I will be waiting outside. Once receiving the appraiser's results, if you have no objections then please pass me the issued receipt."

Qin Yu nodded. He pushed through the door and walked in. The room inside wasn't too large. There was a large black and crystal-like testing table in the middle. Sitting behind it was a middle-aged man with a tired expression. Before they even exchanged greetings, the man said, "Dear guest, please take out your materials."

Since Qin Yu came this far, he naturally wouldn't hesitate. He patted the miniature Big Pig on his shoulder. With a humph, Big Pig raised a hoof and slashed the air. A crack immediately appeared and a blood flame fruit flew out.

Behind the testing table, the middle-aged man spat out the water he was drinking. If he wasn't seeing things just now then the miniature pig had actually torn open space!

It was common for exceedingly formidable cultivators to tear through the void. But for a pig to achieve this, it was far too odd.

And the most terrifying part was that from beginning to end, he didn't sense anything at all. If he didn't see this with his own eyes, he wouldn't have felt a single fluctuation of aura.

It was like opening a pocket...just what level of strength was needed for this?

The middle-aged man looked at Big Pig as if he was looking at an impossibly high mountain. His eyes as he looked at this black-robed youth before him were now filled with respect and reverence.

Mm? He didn't feel any aura at all. How was this possible? It was simply impossible for an average person to make their way to Parasol Tree Mountain deep within the First Moon Mountain Range.

It seemed that this person was just like his pet; they were both experts with concealed skills!

“Respected guest, please wait here. I will serve you to the best of my abilities...blood flame fruit!” His voice suddenly rose up in a shrill scream as if he were an old duck that had its neck held tight. His face flushed red and he started to breathe rapidly.

He nearly pounced onto the testing table. Picking up the lens used for appraisals, he carefully looked over it. The more he looked the more excited he became.

It was real! It was a real blood flame fruit! A fruit that was rumored to be able to save a person’s life even if there was nothing left of them but bones, a transcendent treasure when it came to healing bodily wounds!

It was only after a long time that the middle-aged man recovered his composure. He awkwardly smiled and said, “I must have given dear guest a good laugh. It’s just that the material you provided is far too precious.”

He definitely wasn’t mistaken. This black-robed youth in front of him might have lived for thousands if not tens of thousands of years already. Those fathomless black eyes were filled with the vicissitudes of time!

After taking a deep breath, the middle-aged man stood up. “Dear guest, your material is of the highest level of existence and I do not have the qualifications to test it. I ask you to please follow me. I will bring you to my teacher.”

The door opened from within and the somewhat bored female cultivator revealed a blinding smile. But soon, she stiffly froze.

The middle-aged man said, “From this point on, this honored guest will be personally received by me.” He bowed and said, “Dear guest, please follow me.”

Not only was the female cultivator stunned, but the surrounding guests all had wide eyes and faces full of disbelief. This was an appraisal master of Sky Declaring Pavilion! His status and identity weren’t low, but he actually treated this youth with such deep respect. Just who in the world was he?

As Qin Yu was preparing to follow the middle-aged man away, a group of cultivators walked out from Sky Declaring Pavilion carrying two wooden crates. The one leading them was a thin man with a pale face and a gloomy complexion.

The middle-aged man cupped his hands together and bowed, “Steward Bai, does teacher have any free time right now? I have just received an honored guest.”

Steward Bai squeezed out a smile. “Grandmaster Jiang should have time right now.” He nodded at Qi Yu and cupped his hands in greetings.

He didn’t have the qualifications to casually ignore someone that an appraisal master said was an honored guest.

Suddenly, one of the wooden crates shattered and a man tumbled to the floor. His face was full of panic and horror, “Steward Bai, it was me who offended Grandmaster Qi! Please be merciful and forgive my niece!”

He had been pretending to be unconscious all this time in order to wait for this one opportunity. If he were to cause a mess here then perhaps there would be a small chance of survival.

“I beg you! I beg you!”

Steward Bai’s face was now pale white. Today’s matter couldn’t be exposed to the light. With Mu Tong causing such noise it was bound to set off mighty waves.

“You scoundrel! Take him!” He loudly shouted out at the workers. He cupped his hands at the people around him and said, “Dear guests, this person has lost an extremely precious treasure that belonged to Grandmaster Qi Yunshan, and that is the reason why he is being punished. I will personally take him away to avoid ruining your time here.”

“No! That’s not it! I already bought that bracelet; even if it was lost it has nothing to do with Grandmaster Qi!” Mu Tong immediately revealed the truth without any consideration for anything else. I am a deacon of the Blue Wave Sect, you can’t just take my life like this!”

Steward Bai shook with rage, “You are babbling nonsense! Hurry and take him away!”

After tearing apart any pretense of face, how could Mu Tong allow himself to be captured like this? In the ensuing chaos, a young woman tumbled out from the other crate.

Completely coincidentally, this young woman just happened to be facing Qin Yu. It was Mu Xuan!

In a flash, countless thoughts flashed through his mind, eventually connecting together. They had lost a bracelet, thus leading to their current predicament...it seemed that he had been the origin of this disaster. Qin Yu furrowed his eyebrows, an uncertain look crossing his eyes.

“Shut up! You have ruined the honor of the Blue Wave Sect!” With a cold shout, Elder Liu Zang strode forward. His aura rose and the powerful suppression shocked those present. The scene suddenly fell silent.

“Grandmaster Qi, Mu Tong is the scum of my sect. Not only did he lose your treasure but he even dared to slander you. I ask grandmaster to rest assured. I will bring him back to the sect and give you a full confession later!”

Grandmaster Qi nodded with a dark expression.

Feng Qing had an indifferent look. The world of cultivators was one where the strong ate the weak. She had seen similar scenes countless times before. Besides a faint mockery in her heart, she wouldn’t intervene at all.

Mu Tong had a panicked expression. He knew that once he left everyone’s line of sight today, he and Mu Xuan would most assuredly die.

Elder Liu Zang would kill him. It would be easy to come up with any random reason for his death, such as saying he was stubbornly trying to escape. This would be a sufficient explanation to the sect. After all, no one would care about the life and death of two young cultivators from a fallen family.

“No! Everything I said was true! Elder Liu Zang is working in tandem with Grandmaster Qi! I will expose you to the sect...”

Elder Liu Zang sneered, "Very good. Then I will wait for that day."

Lifting a hand and grasping forward, an invisible strength surged out and imprisoned Mu Tong, leaving him unable to utter another word.

He turned around, "Grandmaster Qi, Miss Feng Qing, I will bid my goodbyes here first."

Both inside and outside, Sky Declaring Pavilion was silent. No one here was an idiot; they had already detected certain truths in Mu Tong's actions.

But so what?

Elder Liu Zang and Grandmaster Qi's will was enough to distort the truth and flip black and white. Even Miss Feng Qing was remaining silent, so naturally they wouldn't go around looking for trouble.

In this silence, a light voice suddenly rose up, "Wait a moment."

Elder Liu Zang turned around, a sharp light shining in his eyes. When he saw who was speaking, his pupils imperceptibly shrank. He said, "Fellow daoist, is there anything you would like to say?"

Qin Yu waved a finger. "I haven't seen enough fun, so how could you take them away?"

Seen enough fun...

Countless people felt their hearts tremble. Even if this was true, there was no need to say it out loud. Weren't you just looking for trouble?

They all began to drip a cold sweat for Qin Yu!

Still, they were somewhat happy in their hearts. This sort of matter where right and wrong were flipped around, even if they themselves didn't dare to stop such an injustice, they were still excited that others were willing to stand up.

Elder Liu Zang's face paled. He coldly said, "Allow me to sternly remind this fellow daoist that you had best not play around, otherwise you might not be able to withstand the consequences!"

The appraisal master's complexion changed and his heart trembled. This person wasn't as harmless as he appeared on the surface. If this young man was truly provoked, he might not even care if Liu Zang was an Elder of the Sea Wave Sect.

The appraisal master hurriedly stepped forward, bowed a little, and rapidly whispered some words.

Feng Qing's pupils shrank and she looked at Qin Yu. Glancing at Big Pig on his shoulder, a dignified light shined in her eyes.

After a moment's thought, she stepped forward and said, "Dear guest, on behalf of Sky Declaring Pavilion's honor, could you not interfere in this matter?"

She also needed to remain on good terms with Grandmaster Qi.

Qin Yu smiled, "And if I say no?"

Lying on Qin Yu's shoulder, Big Pig's legs weakened and he nearly fell over. Big brother, why do you have to have such a hobby? You are walking on a wire right now! The smallest mistake and there won't even be bones left of you!

Everyone sucked in a breath of cold air. They never imagined that this person would be so stubborn. Even when facing Miss Feng Qing, he didn't give any face to her.

Feng Qing furrowed her eyebrows. She had a plaintive expression as she sighed. "Honored guest, why must you make things difficult for me...whatever, since you insist on meddling, please leave before you continue. Sky Declaring Pavilion is not willing to be involved in this mess."

These words already gave sufficient respect to Qin Yu, and also served as a warning to Elder Liu Zang and Grandmaster Qi that this person wasn't someone that was easy to provoke.

Immediately, everyone's expressions towards Qin Yu changed.

Chapter 686B – 'Great Person'

Elder Liu Zang and Grandmaster Qi had increasingly ugly complexions, but they didn't speak. This boy was clearly not some minor character if Sky Declaring Pavilion was able to make such concessions. They didn't want to create a personal enemy here.

But if they let go of the Mu Family uncle and niece like this, they wouldn't have any face left. At the very least they needed to look for an appropriate reason.

In the awkward silence, Mu Xuan coughed after she tumbled down from the box. Her eyes slowly opened. After a brief bout of dizziness, she saw her uncle who was being held as well as Qin Yu standing out from the crowd.

Mu Xuan was stunned. She bit her lips and slowly lowered her head.

But this second of pause was enough for others to see. Grandmaster Qi's eyes brightened and he stared at Qin Yu. "Fellow daoist, do you recognize this woman?"

Qin Yu's lips curled up as if he were smiling and also not smiling. He looked at Qi Yunshan, his expression light, "I know that you have an intense thought in your heart that is causing you to suffer inside, and you fervently desire to know the answer. Then, I will satisfy your curiosity. That's right, the bracelet you are searching for is with me."

Feng Qing's eyes widened and she was increasingly sure of her guess. This seemingly ordinary black-robed youth had to be some fathomless existence.

Otherwise, how would he dare to recklessly provoke Qi Yunshan while he was in such a sensitive and easily agitated state?

Qi Yunshan's eyes brightened and his face flushed red with excitement. He fixed his eyes on Qin Yu, his voice hoarse as he said, "Are you speaking the truth?"

Qin Yu nodded, "Of course."

Taking a deep breath, Qi Yunshan cupped his hands together and said, "Fellow daoist, my name is Qi Yunshan and I have some minor achievements in the path of alchemy. If I unintentionally offended you today, I ask you to not blame me.

"That bracelet is an ancestral item of my Qi Family and is extremely important to our future generations. If fellow daoist is willing to return it, I will pay any price necessary. Moreover, from here on out, fellow daoist will be my good friend and the most honored guest of my Qi Family."

He didn't even mention Mu Tong or Mu Xuan. After determining the whereabouts of the bracelet, they didn't have the qualifications for him to pay attention to them. Whether they lived or died, none of that mattered to him anymore.

"Although I have no idea whether your words are true or false, your offer is indeed sincere. Unfortunately, I am also interested in this bracelet and I have no intention of getting rid of it." Qin Yu lightly said, "So, I must refuse."

Hiss –

Everyone sucked in a breath of cold air as their eyes widened and their faces filled with disbelief. This was simply completely disregarding the honor of an alchemy grandmaster, an action that was not much different from a loud slap to the face. Did this person really not fear thoroughly angering Grandmaster Qi?

Qi Yunshan barely held back his anger. "Fellow daoist really doesn't plan on considering this any further?"

Qin Yu pointed a finger. "I will only say this. Let go of the Mu Family uncle and his niece and do not disturb them any more after this. If you do that, I won't pursue this matter any further."

Big Pig's field of vision flashed black. Big brother, if you were fine and totally healed then killing him would be as simple as crushing an ant. But right now you are nothing more than a paper tiger! If you play around too much you might play yourself into an early grave!

But with things having reached this point, Qin Yu knew that he could only continue to the very end. If he revealed even the slightest trace of weakness, he would immediately be seen through.

"Good! Very good!" Qi Yunshan's complexion clouded over. "I have no idea where you came from or who you are, but since you chose to make me your enemy, I will not take a single step backwards nor will I make any concessions towards you...hand over the bracelet, otherwise don't blame me for being impolite!"

Bang –

A powerful aura erupted from his body!

Qin Yu's pupils shrank a little and he revealed a cold expression. He exuded the dignity of a superior being, like a god looking down upon all from the highest heavens.

"Grandmaster Qi!" Feng Qing suddenly shouted out, "I've already said that I hope you two can restrain yourself and not come into conflict within Sky Declaring Pavilion! Please understand!"

Qi Yunshan was without expression. "Alright, then I will go..." Before his voice fell, he lifted a hand and a shadow flew out, exploding forward like an arrow.

In a flash, this shadow arrived in front of Qin Yu. It opened its mouth and revealed sharp teeth that ruthlessly bit down at him. A fierce and crazy light shined in Qi Yunshan's cruel eyes.

If he could obtain the Chain of Stars, his alchemy strength would rise by an entire level, allowing him to become a genuine alchemy grandmaster in the truest sense of the word.

At that time, even Great Dao realm existences would have to give him sufficient respect. For this reason he was even willing to provoke formidable enemies!

A true alchemy grandmaster could erupt with a strength that could suppress a powerful sect, even an ancient inheritance clan! Thus, Qi Yunshan chose the perfect opportunity to attack without hesitation.

But the plot didn't proceed in the direction he expected it to. When that terrifyingly fast shadow bit down through Qin Yu's skin, it seemed to be struck by thunder and had its acupuncture points pressed. It froze where it was.

The shadow felt a terrifying suppression that came from the bloodline level, making it feel as if it faced its invincible natural enemy. Fear gushed out from deep in its soul, thoroughly submerging its consciousness. All that remained was a trembling fear and abject despair.

"Dragon blood monster spirit!"

There was a sudden cry of alarm. Everyone looked at the gray phantom that was biting down on Qin Yu's neck, its snake-like body covered in dragon scales, and their faces paled. When they looked at Qin Yu again, it was like they were witnessing an unimaginable miracle, their eyes full of awe.

A cold sweat appeared on Qin Yu's back. He had no idea what a dragon blood monster spirit was, but he had undoubtedly made a round trip to death's door just now. Luckily, this thing seemed to have an extreme fear towards the Ancient race. After touching his blood it was directly suppressed.

He silently vowed to himself that he would never do something so dangerous again. The sense of powerlessness he felt when on the verge of death was something truly disgusting.

But on the surface, Qin Yu's expression didn't change. He calmly lifted a hand and took down the 'dragon blood monster spirit' that was biting his neck. With a temperate look he said, "What a naughty little fellow. It's good that you stopped fast enough, otherwise you would have died by now.

"I don't blame you because this wasn't your original intent. But those that offended me shall never be allowed!" Qin Yu looked up, his pitch black eyes locking onto Qi Yunshan. The iciness in them seemed capable of freezing everything, extinguishing all things in the world.

Bang –

A terrifying aura, like a great beast awakening from slumber or a thousand volcanoes blowing up at once, erupted from his body. As if he looked down upon the world with disdain, as if he could step on a trillion stars beneath his foot.

The air turned thick and viscous. It submerged everyone like an invisible swamp. The suppression was so terrifying that even breathing was impossible.

Buzz –

Buzz –

Sky Declaring Pavilion's defensive array formation immediately activated beneath this impact. A radiant divine light shined with a cold brilliance. But at this time it could only shrink, not daring to approach Qin Yu in the least.

Because at this moment, the strength of the entire array formation was suppressed!

Qin Yu stared at Qi Yunshan, his voice seeming to come from the depths of hell. "Tell me. How do you want to die?"

The world fell deathly silent!

Countless people fell to the ground. It was like an invisible hand clutched at their hearts. Fear and horror tumbled in their eyes.

"Peak of the Calamity Immortal realm...no, this can compare even with the Great Dao realm!" Feng Qing screamed out in her mind, her complexion paling. She had once come into contact with this kind of existence that neared the summit of this world, thus she knew how terrifying they were.

They could summon wind and rain with a flip of their hands; they could erase a trillion lives with nothing but a thought!

Qi Yunshan felt as if he had fallen into an icy cave. His entire body froze and he couldn't even think straight. But, he now knew what sort of existence he had offended.

Great Dao realm...it was actually the Great Dao realm...

It was over, it was all over!

Perhaps even the entire Qi Family would be implicated by him and suffer total annihilation!

"Great Dao realm!" A deep voice suddenly rang out. Ripples spread in the imprisoned space and a white-haired old man appeared. As he arrived, Sky Declaring Pavilion's suppressed array formation erupted with an even more formidable aura, instantly locking onto Qin Yu.

"Just who are you? You had best give me a satisfactory answer, otherwise with your initial Great Dao realm cultivation, you still don't have the qualifications to be so insolent in Sky Declaring Pavilion!"

Chapter 687A – Light, Small, Thin, Transparent

The oppressive aura that covered everyone was swept away. Feng Qing revealed a pleasantly surprised expression, "Old Zhao, why are you here?"

"Old Man Xu made a breakthrough in his cultivation and returned to his dwelling to close up there. In the meantime, I was temporarily put in charge of handling affairs." As Old Zhao spoke to here, he revealed a look of envy before smiling, "I heard that young miss was here. Since I haven't seen you for

such a long time, I came here through the transmission array. I never thought that I would just happen to come across today's incident. Young miss, please wait a moment. I will deal with this person first."

After being given a breath of life in such a hopeless situation, Qi Yunshan shook with excitement. "Old Zhao, this person dared to offend the honor of Sky Declaring Pavilion. He cannot be forgiven!"

Old Zhao had a light expression. "Grandmaster Qi, rest assured that I will handle everything fairly." He looked at Qin Yu, his eyes cold as he said, "You may speak now."

It was clear that if Qin Yu couldn't put forth a sufficient background that could deter Sky Declaring Pavilion, then today's events wouldn't be easily forgiven.

Countless eyes fell on Qin Yu, revealing both sympathy and regret. Looking at the entire world, a Great Dao realm existence could be considered a powerhouse in their own right, someone that could summon the wind and rain and look down arrogantly at others wherever they travelled.

But this person's luck was too lacking; he just happened to stumble upon the patrolling expert of Sky Declaring Pavilion. Even if he didn't die today he would still lose a layer of skin.

But what left everyone surprised was that Qin Yu's expression remained as light as before, as if he didn't care about this situation in which he seemed thoroughly suppressed at all. Could it be that he still had another card in his hands that could cause Sky Declaring Pavilion to feel fear?

"Explanation?" After a brief and peaceful silence, Qin Yu slowly opened his mouth, "Then, will Mister Zhao be satisfied with this explanation?"

Within his mind, Qin Yu diligently tried to recall the memories of when he refined the Chain of Stars. He recalled the time when he was placed within the vast starry skies, and imagined himself as those ancient stars that remained unchanging for eternity, filled with infinite strength.

On his finger, the Ring of Liars emitted a faint hum. Qin Yu held his hands across his back, hiding it in his sleeves.

Then, the aura on his body rose once more. Space fiercely shook, countless great ripples spreading out like the surface of a raging sea.

Within his soul space, the Chain of Stars that twined around his soul suddenly emitted a faint starlight. It passed through his body and surrounded him.

Vast and boundless, an aura that seemed as if it could swallow and contain all gushed free from his body, as limitless as the starry skies above.

Rumble rumble –

The clouds in the skies above Parasol Tree Mountain were instantly torn apart by an invisible strength. The bright sun darkened as stars appeared in the void.

A cold and mystical starlight cast down upon the earth. It formed the shadow figures of men and women, all of them chanting syllables of praise and reverence. A divine and holy aura covered the world.

“Divine Dao!” Old Zhao lost his voice, almost biting off his own tongue. His mind rumbled and he fell into a panic.

He never imagined that today he would actually face an unsurpassed Divine Dao realm existence. Moreover, it was a heaven-defying existence that was capable of condensing the myriad stars in the skies and had stepped onto the path of stars.

No, that wasn't right. This wasn't a complete Divine Dao aura, it seemed to be missing something...yes, if he were facing a true Divine Dao existence, a single glance would have made him lose all ability to resist.

This person in front of him must be a formidable existence who had touched upon the threshold of the Divine Dao realm and could step into it at any moment. Perhaps he was travelling through the world, seeking a turning point to break through into divine transformation.

Looking at Qin Yu who shined with starlight, Old Zhao had already imagined Qin Yu's complete backstory for him. He hurriedly bowed, his face full of respect and horror as he said, “I did not know that a revered Divine Dao had appeared. I have accidentally offended you. I beg you to take into consideration the face of my family's master and show mercy!”

Divine Dao...

Feng Qing's eyes widened and her mind fell into panic, everything around her turning black. Even with her status, she had never once come into contact with a Divine Dao existence.

This was an existence that stood upon the peak of this world. With a thought they could reverse night and day. Just by lifting a hand they could cause this world to change colors.

Qi Yunshan's complexion was like dying embers. He plopped to his knees, his body violently shivering as inexhaustible fear filled his heart.

Divine Dao, this was actually a Divine Dao existence. Such a great figure could crush his entire Qi Family with nothing but a finger.

Elder Liu Zang streamed with sweat and his heart beat wildly. His robes were drenched with sweat. They clung tight to his body, leaving him looking thoroughly distressed.

If there was medicine for regret, he would have eaten an entire jar by now. Damn it, why didn't anyone tell him about this!? This was clearly just a minor matter of seeking a bracelet, but it had actually developed into such a situation.

Even a Divine Dao existence had revealed himself, this was just too absurd...Elder Liu Zang could only pray that no one paid attention to him right now. He hoped that this Divine Dao existence could forget a minor character like him and let him go!

Bathed in starlight, like a god arriving upon the earth, Qin Yu's voice was deep and low. Each syllable he uttered seemed to shake the void.

“If it wasn't for Sky Declaring Pavilion's master, do you think I would so easily forgive you for offending me?”

Old Zhao's face paled. "I thank the revered Divine. Your mercy is as great as the heavens, capable of holding all things!"

The horrifying aura that flooded the world suddenly and completely vanished, as if everything that happened just now was nothing but an illusion.

Old Zhao's pupils shrank. As a senior powerhouse of the Great Dao realm, he had the qualifications to come into contact with some secrets related to the Divine Dao realm.

The scene that happened proved that this person truly controlled the key point to stepping into the Divine Dao realm. He could make a breakthrough at any moment.

Only like this could he freely emit and recall this energy with his heart, the power to control the heavens and earth.

And this sort of formidable control could only be achieved by slowly accumulating it over a long span of years...this person seemed to be acquainted with his master, but in his impression he had no information about him.

Of course, Old Zhao was only a bit confused. He didn't dare to express any suspicions at all.

He had personally witnessed the aura of a Divine Dao with his own eyes. That sort of terrifying boundary could not be faked.

"We greet the revered Divine!"

Old Zhao fell to his knees.

Shualala –

Everyone in Sky Declaring Pavilion knelt. This was the unsurpassed reverence that a Divine Dao existence deserved.

Mu Xuan had a stunned expression. She was pulled to the ground by her uncle before she could regain her composure. She never thought that this senior who brought her back was such a legendary character.

No wonder this senior hadn't killed her off to eliminate any potential informants. It was because he never considered killing Qi Shengtian and the others any trouble at all.

As for the warning he gave her before they parted, it was likely just because he didn't want other matters to affect his mood.

"Ancestors bless us...ancestors bless us...our Mu Family finally...has a chance to prosper again..."

Mu Tong's whispers caused Mu Xuan to regain her senses. She looked up and saw her uncle's excited and almost frantic expression as he looked at her.

"Mu Xuan! Little girl, you accomplished a great merit this time! After this, the future of our Mu Family will all depend on you!"

Although she was ignorant of affairs, this didn't mean she was stupid. Mu Xuan soon understood the meaning behind her uncle's words.

But between her and senior, they had already cleared their accounts. There was nothing else between them.

Her lips moved but she didn't speak. She knew that after today's events, the Mu Family was destined to be valued by others.

To be associated with a Divine Dao existence...even if it was only a suspicion, that was enough for the Mu Family to escape their current predicament.

"Mu Xuan."

A calm voice resounded, giving her a jump. Her eyes widened like a frightened rabbit as she stared at Qin Yu in a blank daze.

"I very much like the gift you gave me. If you have need of anything in the future, simply give my name."

The act was successful so there was no need to put it to waste. Qin Yu decided to push the boat along and help the Mu Family. He would simply regard this as repayment for the Chain of Stars.

Mu Tong's head buzzed and he almost fainted from blood rushing to his brain. Joy came too fast, so fast that he couldn't prepare for it. Their Mu Family's spring had arrived!

Countless envious eyes fell upon the Mu Family uncle and niece. Still, all of them secretly plotted in their hearts for how to draw closer connections to them.

But no one was stupid enough to think of taking advantage of Mu Xuan. Who knew what sort of relationship she had with this person.

Old Zhao respectfully said, "Revered Divine, rest assured that Sky Declaring Pavilion will shelter the Mu Family from here on. We shall not disappoint you."

He icily glanced over Qi Yunshan, revealing a look of deep loathing. It was because of this bastard that he almost provoked a great accident.

"Revered Divine, would you like to further process this matter?"

Qin Yu nodded and swept his eyes around. "I am travelling the world for pleasure and do not wish to be disturbed. As for today's matter, let it rot away in your bellies."

These words extinguished everyone's greedy thoughts. No one dared to ignore the warnings of a Divine Dao existence.

Chapter 687B – Light, Small, Thin, Transparent

Moments later, in Sky Declaring Pavilion's most luxurious private room, Qin Yu leaned back on a soft sofa, faintly glaring at Qi Yunshan who was lying prone on the ground.

"Forgive me! Forgive me!"

Even ants struggled to survive, much less a person who was soon about to become an alchemy grandmaster. As long as there was even a single thread of hope, he wouldn't give up.

Old Zhao and Feng Qing stood politely to the side. Neither of them despised Qi Yunshan's performance.

In order to continue living on, doing this in front of a Divine Dao existence wasn't a loss of face.

It was just that they weren't too optimistic about Qi Yunshan's struggles. The dignity of a Divine Dao being could not be provoked; the only appropriate apology was an offering of death and blood.

"Qi Yunshan, I do not wish to kill anymore, so I will give you a chance. If you can complete it then I will spare your life."

"Thank you, thank you!" Qi Yunshan smashed his head into the ground. "No matter what orders you have, this lowly one will complete them even if I must die 10,000 times!"

Qin Yu lifted a hand and knocked on the miniature Big Pig lying on his shoulder. Big Pig lifted a hoof and tore open space, taking out a blood flame fruit.

As this sight fell into Old Zhao's eyes, his pupils slightly shrank and he felt even more awe towards this mysterious person. As for a blood flame fruit, while it was precious, with this person's status it was actually normal to take out.

"With this blood flame fruit as the main ingredient, add some other materials and refine a pill for me, one with temperate properties that even a common person can take. Can you do this? Of course, the medicinal efficacy must be maintained."

Qin Yunshan's voice shook. "Do not worry your excellency, this lowly one has full confidence. It is just that I need some precious materials to refine the pill and I do not have them prepared yet."

Old Zhao bowed, "Please allow Sky Declaring Pavilion an opportunity to atone for our mistake. The other materials required for refining the pill shall be provided by us."

Qin Yu nodded his head as if he didn't care. "Very well, it shall be as you say." He looked at Qi Yunshan and lifted a finger, "You only have half a day. I will be leaving before night arrives."

He swept his eyes over Old Zhao, "You won't be informing your master about what happened here, right?"

Old Zhao stiffened. He reluctantly said, "No one dares to violate your will."

"Very good." Qin Yu stood up. "Prepare a quiet resting room. No one is to disturb me."

Feng Qing hurriedly said, "Please follow me."

She subconsciously brought Qin Yu to the best resting room in Sky Declaring Pavilion. But when the door closed, she muttered a quick 'ah'.

Old Zhao's complexion changed. "What is it?"

Feng Qing blushed red. She shook her head and said, "Nothing."

Last night she had rested here. There was a cleaning staff that specialized in clearing up and sanitizing the rooms. But after taking a bath and changing clothes yesterday, her clothes hadn't been taken away yet. Right now, she could only pray that this revered figure wouldn't see her private garments.

With Qin Yu's careful personality, even if his movie-king level acting was perfect, he still wouldn't lower his guard. He naturally inspected the room.

Thus, Feng Qing's prayers were useless. When he saw the woman's garments hung across the wooden frame, four words leapt into his mind: light, small, thin, and transparent!

After awkwardly inspecting the area, Qin Yu pulled Big Pig and walked away. He let out a light breath, a wry smile on his lips.

At this time, who had the thought to care about such things? This was truly ridiculous! After suppressing these thoughts, Qin Yu sat down and ordered Big Pig to take out a blood flame fruit.

He picked it up and ate it in several bites. A fiery aura erupted within his body. Like boiling magma, it wildly raced through his meridians, spreading through his limbs and bones!

The status of a Divine Dao being was formidable enough that everyone felt dread and awe. If so, then this chamber that was isolated from the outside should be the safest place for him. Qin Yu naturally wouldn't waste away half a day while Qi Yunshan finished refining the pill.

No matter how good the effects of bluffing were, there was no substantive significance behind them. The only thing he could truly rely on was restoring his own strength. Qin Yu was well aware of this.

The blood flame fruit was indeed worthy of being called a precious treasure that could repair and strengthen one's mortal body. A boiling flow of heat swept through him. Wherever it passed, the traces of broken flesh and blood would quietly regenerate.

Of course, this was also because Qin Yu's mortal body was formidable already, thus it could withstand the direct strength of the blood flame fruit. If it were anyone else, their body would be burnt to ashes by now.

His severely wounded body was like a cracked and drought-ridden land that had been laying beneath the hot sun for too long. It greedily and thirstily absorbed all the strength from the blood flame fruit.

A short two hours later, the strength of the first blood flame fruit was thoroughly consumed. Qin Yu's eyes opened. Without hesitation, he took out the second blood flame fruit and ate it.

After a short respite the boiling flow of heat returned once more to wreak havoc. At this time, loud rumbling rang out within Qin Yu's body. Although it wasn't too intense, it contained a formidable will that shook the heart.

Faint traces of the annihilating strength of space caught within his flesh and blood were constantly stripped away and removed from his body. As it happened, the space surrounding Qin Yu shattered in a web-like shape around him.

Shua –

When the strength of the second fruit was completely absorbed, Qin Yu opened his eyes, his pupils flashing with a sharp light. He slapped the ground and directly stood up. As he did, his bones crackled and popped.

A strength that he hadn't seen for a long time flowed through him once more. Although he was still a far distance away from recovering, it was much better than before.

If he could have taken three blood flame fruits at once, then the effects would absolutely be better than they were now. But, Qin Yu didn't regret his actions.

Even if time reversed and he could make another choice, he would still unhesitatingly choose to use a blood flame fruit to save Old Man Zhou.

The reasons humans were humans were because their hearts held both good and evil. Even if some things were inevitable, if he couldn't even stick to his decision at such a time, how would he be different from a beast?

He looked up at the clock. Qin Yu quickly adapted to his restored strength and then pushed open the doors to the resting room.

Feng Qing was nervously waiting outside. She hurriedly bowed and said, "Greetings..." Her face was hot red, as if she wanted to say something but couldn't.

Qin Yu was immediately aware of what happened. Those garments in the wash room were hers...he subconsciously swept his eyes over her body and imagined her putting on those clothes...

Cough cough. "Has Qi Yunshan finished refining the pill yet?"

Feng Qing hurriedly said, "The refining process is going smoothly. Everything will be completed soon."

Since she couldn't see anything strange from Qin Yu's face, she could only place her worries to the side.

"Please wait in the private room. I will immediately go to confirm again."

Qin Yu nodded, "Good."

An hour later, a pale-faced Qi Yunshan who looked as if he had been crushed by ten pigs all night appeared. He wafted into the private room and fell to his knees, "This lowly one did not shame your excellency's mission. The pill has been refined; please accept it."

He delivered the jade bottle containing the pill with both hands as well as a jade slip that described it in detail. When Qin Yu received it, he took the bottle and opened it, giving it a sniff. He didn't touch the jade slip nearby. "Since you have refined the pill, I will keep my word and forgive you this time."

Qi Yushan's body shook with excitement. "Thank you!"

Then, his field of vision flashed black and he fell unconscious. To refine the pill in just half a day, he had exhausted all of his mental energy.

Qin Yu glanced at him and then faintly said, "I will be leaving now. There is no need to send me out."

He stood up and walked away.

Old Zhao relaxed. He thought that this mysterious powerhouse was a truly reasonable person. If he were to utilize the skills of a Divine Dao being and directly break through the surrounding imprisonment to leave, the entire defensive array formation of Sky Declaring Pavilion would be instantly destroyed.

It seemed that taking the initiative to put forth Sky Declaring Pavilion's name and offer the supplementary materials needed to refine the pill had quelled this man's anger.

Good! This was good!

Old Zhao was originally heartbroken to have to give up so many precious materials. But now, all of that regret had faded away. To be able to melt away the unhappiness of a being that was soon about to step into the Divine Dao realm, even though these materials were precious they weren't anything at all.

"We wish your excellency farewell!"

He and Feng Qing bowed.

When Qin Yu left from a hidden exit of Sky Declaring Pavilion, his steps were stable and steady. It was only when he left everyone's line of sight that his pace quickened a little.

When he walked out from a street, he used his regained strength to manipulate the muscles on his face, putting on an ordinary appearance as he mixed himself into the stream of people leaving Parasol Tree Mountain.

With a thought, the ant swarm howled over, picking Qin Yu up and flying away at the fastest speed possible.

It was only now that Qin Yu let out a long breath of relief. Fortunately, the will of a 'Divine Dao' being was terrifying enough that no one dared to offend or disobey him. Otherwise, if he managed to attract a true Divine Dao existence, then things would definitely have become troublesome.

Chapter 688 – Splendid Stage

Wali Village.

The old granny looked at the old man who was still lying unconscious on the bed, her eyes filled with helpless fear.

Perhaps because they had relied on each other for so many years, an unusual connection seemed to exist between the two of them – she faintly felt that the old man's life force was constantly leaking away. As time passed, he grew closer and closer to death.

And today should be his limit.

The old granny's shivering hand held onto the old man's, her weak voice mumbling as if she were trying to speak to him.

In my lifetime, you never hated me or disdained me because I was a mute. You have always been kind to me and respected me. I feel nothing but gratitude for you in my heart.

Don't be afraid. Everyone must welcome death eventually. I won't have you walk on the road to the yellow springs alone. Please wait for me.

To live my life with you and die on the same day with you, there is nothing that would make me happier.

Tears flowed out from the edges of the old granny's eyes and her expression calmed down. She quietly sat in a wooden chair beside the bed, waiting for the old man's final moments to arrive.

Suddenly, the courtyard doors were shoved open from the outside, following by the rapid sound of footsteps. The old granny was left absent-minded for a moment. When she regained herself, she pushed open the door and looked outside.

All of a sudden, her eyes flew open.

Qin Yu smiled, "Granny, I'm back. Don't worry, nothing will happen to old sir."

Three days later.

A still weak Old Man Zhou sat down in a chair, basking in the sun with a blanket covering him. As Qin Yu was woodworking, he gave some directions from the side.

"The things that a person promises to others need to be completed. These things have been delayed long enough; they have to be sent out as soon as possible."

Qin Yu smiled and agreed. "You can rest assured. Although I have never done any woodworking, with your guidance I'm sure I'll do a great job."

"Of course. Hey, don't forget who the one teaching you is. Out of the eight villages in the surrounding ten miles, I am the most skilled carpenter there is. If you are able to learn my craftsmanship, you'll be able to eat and drink your life away without worries."

The granny carried some medicine over. Staring at the bragging old man, she opened her mouth and 'ahh'ed a few times at him. Qin Yu didn't understand the meaning behind it, but the old man's face flushed red. "I know, I know, I won't go out and randomly take on work anymore. I've heard this dozens of times already. Aren't you tired of repeating the same thing?"

Even though he mouthed out some complaints, there was still some dread on his face. He took the bowl of medicinal soup and drank it all in a few gulps. The bitterness caused his eyes to widen as he chewed on some tea leaves to counteract the taste.

The granny glared at him and then took away the bowl. Soon, she came back with a cup of milk tea, laughing as she handed it to Qin Yu.

"Thank you, granny!" Qin Yu drank the hot and fragrant milk tea, a satisfied smile on his face. His life here had finally returned to normal. But just as this thought occurred, he was left stunned. Since when did he consider this a normal life?

Was this sort of peaceful and tranquil life what he always yearned for in his bones? But, reality was harsh. He knew that these kinds of ordinary and average days would soon come to an end.

After taking two blood flame fruits and restoring a portion of his mortal body's strength, he could now compare with an early Blue Sea realm. With the purpleback bluewing ants supporting him, he wouldn't be easily killed by anyone as long as he was cautious.

Qin Yu had to leave this place. He needed to return to the dangerous world of cultivators and figure out a way to heal his wounds and increase his strength.

...

“That pathetic whore, that damned whore! I’ll kill her, I’ll definitely kill her!” A youth lay back against a bed. Disregarding his pale face, he was undoubtedly a delicate and pretty young man. But right now his face was twisted with anger.

A physician cultivator was treating the lower half of his body. His face was covered in sweat. A long time after, the preliminary cleaning was finished. He let out a long sigh before standing up and retreating from the room.

“What’s the situation like?” A cultivator with graying temples asked in a low voice, his expression dignified.

The physician cultivator bowed, “Elder, his condition isn’t good. Because he was in a situation where he wasn’t expecting to withstand the explosion of a tool, Young Master Feng’s cultivation wasn’t enough to resist it. The lower half of his body has suffered extreme injuries. I was only able to apply some simple treatments so that his injuries don’t worsen.”

The graying temples cultivator’s lips twitched. If he could, he really wished he could choke the scoundrel in the room to death.

Playing around with women was fine, but he still needed to be careful. To end up in such a state because of a woman who had barely just stepped onto the path of cultivation, he was simply trash!

But this trash’s background wasn’t one that was easy to provoke. “No matter the cost, make sure to keep his injuries stable. I will try to figure out a solution.”

The physician bowed.

“Teacher, it looks like we won’t be able to conceal this matter. Should I inform them now?” A young man to the side respectfully asked.

The man rubbed his forehead, a weary expression crossing his face. “Send a message and truthfully state how these injuries came about. This is a disaster he provoked himself, so it shouldn’t be us who pay for it.”

Although he said these words, when he thought about that young lady’s cold and desolate eyes, he still felt a headache coming.

The youth’s face darkened, as if he felt the pressure his teacher was feeling. He hesitated for a moment and said, “Junior-apprentice sister A’li is waiting outside the door. Would teacher like to see her?”

Yu Qing furrowed his eyebrows. He immediately said, “We’ll go and see her first.”

Outside the hall, a pale-faced A’li was still covered in blood. But, there was no fear on her face.

“Teacher.”

She bowed.

Yu Qing said, "You were too careless. You know what kind of person Feng Yang is, so why give him the chance to be alone together with you?"

A'li bit her lips. "I apologize to teacher. I was too negligent."

Yu Qing let out a light breath. "It's too late to say such words. But you weren't the one who was wrong in this matter. I will testify on your behalf. Go back and rest for now. Don't feel pressured about this."

A'li's eyes reddened. She deeply bowed and said, "Thank you, teacher. I've troubled you."

She turned and left.

The youth in the back diligently tried to suppress the surprise in his eyes. In his impression, this seemingly conservative and fair teacher was far different in private.

"Have people look after her. Before the young lady arrives, nothing can happen to her."

The youth relaxed. Now this was the teacher he was familiar with. His sudden actions before this were difficult to believe.

"Yes, I will pass down orders now."

Yu Qing watched the youth leave. Dark clouds then appeared on his face and he couldn't help but curse beneath his breath. Feng Yang this idiot, he had ruined all of his preparations.

This newly accepted female disciple was originally prepared for himself. But with such a huge ruckus suddenly stirred up, others would definitely find out about this.

If it was impossible to monopolize her, then if he didn't want her to fall into the hands of the Sect Master and become the key for breaking through his boundary, he could only destroy this girl.

But he couldn't do this himself. Taking advantage of that young lady's hand was undoubtedly the best solution.

Throughout the entire sect, there was no one that would risk offending her by objecting to this.

With a flick of his sleeve, Yu Qing walked away. His waist was straight and his expression was serious. His bright eyes were filled with a determined perseverance.

This world was a splendid and wonderful stage. Every person was more or less playing out their own little role, all of them hiding their true personalities and plans. They were alligators in a swamp, only revealing their nostrils, their great jaws ready to open at any time and tear their prey to pieces.

...

Looking at her younger clan cousin lying back on the bed and drinking medicine to stabilize his injuries, Feng Qing's eyes flashed with a cold light. If Feng Yang wasn't the only male descendant of the Feng lineage, she would long have been unable to prevent herself from clearing him away.

Hu –

She let out a gentle breath and walked outside. When she appeared, her complexion had returned to normal. "Elder Yu Qing, I've troubled you with this."

Yu Qing had a respectful expression. "I am the one that should be apologizing to Miss Feng Qing. I was unable to look after Feng Yang well and allowed him to be tempted by my disciple and even suffer such a severe wound."

After a short pause he continued to say, "Miss Feng Qing, please do not worry. Regarding this matter, the sect will certainly punish the perpetrator and show no mercy."

Feng Qing's expression was faint. She knew that the origin of this incident, and all of the blame, should be from Feng Yang.

But as the only male bloodline descendant of the Feng Family, Feng Yang was destined to become the family's future patriarch and he couldn't shoulder such an ill reputation.

"Then I must trouble Elder Yu Qing."

Her voice had no fluctuations of emotion, as if she were simply speaking of a small and trifling matter.

Feng Qing mocked and ridiculed herself in her heart. Perhaps she, who was boasted of as always being noble and pure, was no different from these people.

Yu Qing looked across the hall. The Sect Master and several other Elders all had gloomy expressions. He lightly smiled and said, "Miss Feng Qing, please reside in the sect for some time. At the great sect meeting, we shall announce the final judgment."

This was another gift.

In front of every cultivator of the sect, they would use the sect's name to publically wash Feng Yang's reputation clean. Even if some people were still doubtful in the future, none of them would dare to say anything.

That would bring a conclusion to this event...as for Zhou Li, while her physique was special and she had potential, she could only blame herself for having a background that was far too ordinary. In this world, having an ordinary background was in itself a fatal flaw.

Feng Qing lightly nodded and didn't say anything else. She looked outside the window at the lush green scenery. It was clearly a vibrant scene filling with light, but in her eyes it was actually filled with a rotten and decaying flavor.

Chapter 689A – Zhou Li, Do You Acknowledge Your Guilt?

A sword-wielding immortal visited Wali Village. He stopped in front of the old Zhou Family's household. Everyone thought that A'li had accomplished great deeds outside and now this old couple were being taken away to enjoy happiness in the twilight years of their lives.

"Tsk tsk, that Zhou Family girl, I knew from first sight that she had good fortune. Sure enough, my eyesight is sharp!"

"No wonder she couldn't take a liking to that boy from outside the village. That Zhou girl is a phoenix born amongst chickens. She's destined to fly far away."

“That old Zhou couple will be able to enjoy happiness...in their old age, their granddaughter actually managed to stand out and show her potential. This might be the heavens compensating them.”

Countless people revealed eyes that shined with envy. They mumbled beneath their breath, wishing that they could go over and witness the elegant bearing of an immortal with their own eyes. Yet, they all felt dread and only dared to remain in their family homes.

These were immortals that could fly! If they weren't careful and violated some taboo, it could easily end with someone dead.

Li Wei rode upon a three foot long sword, his hands held behind his back and his blue robes fluttering in the wind. A faintly ethereal aura wafted round him.

He looked down at the courtyard below and the three humble and lowly mortals within. He furrowed his eyebrows, an arrogant look in his eyes. “You are Zhou Li's relatives?”

Old Zhou barely managed to keep his cool. He respectfully replied, “Reporting to the immortal, we are.”

Li Wei's cold voice sounded out, “An accident has occurred to Zhou Li at the sect and we need a relative to come. Choose a person to follow me.”

The old man hurriedly said, “What happened to A'li?”

“Humph! These are matters of the immortal path; how could the likes of you ever understand? Stop wasting my time. I still need to go back and report!” Li Wei coldly said.

The old man grabbed onto the old granny's shaking hand and took a deep breath. He turned to Qin Yu and said, “Young Qin, you go with the immortal.”

After a moment's hesitation, Qin Yu slowly nodded.

Li Wei frowned. “Who is he? Can he represent your Zhou Family?”

Old Zhou said, “Immortal, Qin Yu is A'li's fiancé and also the one she is closest with.”

Fiancé?

Li Wei's complexion sank. His eyes swept over Qin Yu. That woman Zhou Li acted so arrogantly and yet she chose this country bumpkin? They perfectly suited each other!

Envy rose in his heart. But, he soon sneered coldly. News of this matter had already spread throughout the sect. Although it was rumored that Feng Yang didn't succeed, who knew what the real situation was like?

A Golden Core cultivator couldn't even deal with an amateur who had just stepped onto the path of cultivation? Tsk tsk, she had likely been eaten up already, and it was only because Feng Yang was negligent afterwards that he fell for her trap.

Li Wei thought about how he once approached her but was rejected, and a macabre expression crossed his face. Once this boy learned the truth his expression would truly be wonderful.

“Let's go!”

Moving impatiently, Li Wei flicked his sleeves and lifted Qin Yu up behind him. He brought his hands together and formed some seals. Soon, the blue cloud sword howled into the distance.

“This cultivator has a Nascent Soul realm cultivation, but his aura is actually several times more vigorous than when I was at the Nascent Soul realm. Moreover, he also has many treasures on his body and the quality of this flying sword is extremely good, perfectly matching his cultivation technique. In combination, his strength can rise several times over...”

Qin Yu looked at Li Wei who was standing heroically against the wind with an elegant posture and his hands held behind his back. In his heart he secretly estimated this person’s strength. He didn’t have any interest in this sort of small cultivator, but was simply trying to estimate the strength of the cultivation sect that A’li had joined.

Although Li Wei hadn’t said anything, Qin Yu could sense the cold intent from his actions. It was likely that A’li had come across some incident.

It was because of this that Qin Yu agreed to stand in for Old Man Zhou and go on this trip. If there really was something wrong, perhaps there was a chance he could resolve it.

He hoped this matter wouldn’t be too troublesome.

Sensing Qin Yu’s silence, Li Wei’s lips curled up in a mocking sneer. This country bumpkin had likely never experienced anything like this; he was probably frightened out of his mind.

Perhaps I can go a little faster!

With a thought, he sent out more magic power. The blue cloud sword hummed and it surged with even more blue light. As it did, its speed rose by a great deal.

From this change, Qin Yu could understand what thoughts were in Li Wei’s head. He immediately revealed a ‘terrified’ expression and his face paled.

A Nascent Soul cultivator actually had such a pathetic and weak-minded personality. It seemed that while the cultivation level of this world was higher, due to the fact that it was far too easy to obtain strength, cultivators were lacking in mentality. If he were to fight cultivators of this world in the future, he could use this as an advantage against them.

As he was deep in thought, he suddenly heard a loud cry. The cry was accompanied by a formidable strength that pierced through his ears and into his soul.

“White-headed demon eagle!” Li Wei screamed out loud, almost losing his voice. After a brief panic he quickly drew out a jade talisman.

He poured magic power in and the mark within the jade talisman was activated. Light erupted in the air, condensing into the characters of ‘True Wood’.

“My status token is only of the Nascent Soul realm and its suppressive aura is not enough to force the white-headed demon eagle to retreat in fear. Moreover, this type of demonic life form only knows slaughter and bloodthirst, so it is likely to completely ignore the aura of the sect’s token...it’s over, it’s all over, how could I meet a terrifying being like a white-headed demon eagle here...”

Li Wei's face paled and his eyes filled with fear.

This white-headed demon eagle didn't seem to see the aura of the True Wood Sect's token at all. Its eyes flashed with a blood red light and it screamed and hurtled towards them.

"The end of my life has come!"

Li Wei's voice shook with despair.

At this time, the 'scared' Qin Yu suddenly looked up. His pitch black eyes were like an abyss as he stared at the white-headed demon eagle.

This demonized monster beast fiercely stiffened as if it had suffered a great fright. It flapped its giant wings and turned around, fleeing into the distance.

Li Wei stood in a dumbstruck daze. After a long time, he finally reacted.

I'm alive, I'm actually still alive.

Thank the heavens and earth!

He took a deep breath and put away the token in an intentionally calm manner. He wiped the cold sweat from his face and said, "You damned mindless beast, you are lucky that you fled fast enough otherwise I would have cut you down on the spot!"

He glanced at Qin Yu. When he saw the 'awe' and 'worship' in Qin Yu's eyes, Li Wei relaxed a little and he became a little calmer.

He formed another hand seal with his fingers and the blue cloud sword sped away.

Following that, the rest of the trip proceeded smoothly. But the speed of a Nascent Soul cultivator was too slow. It took nearly half a day before they arrived at the lands of the True Wood Sect.

Several mountains appeared. They were verdant green and the air around them was flooded with vitality. With the characters 'True Word', it wasn't hard to guess that this sect cultivated some sort of wood-attribute cultivation method.

Li Wei caught Qin Yu staring at the sect entrance. Of course, he also saw the look of 'shock' and 'awe' on his face. Now that his mission was completed, there was no longer any need to conceal his mocking tone. "The sect will hold a meeting tomorrow. You will be staying here for today!"

Li Wei tossed Qin Yu into a distant corner of the sect that appeared to be where the servants lived. Then, he swaggered away.

A servant leader that had been groveling to Li Wei before he left suddenly stared at Qin Yu. "You are Zhou Li's fiancé? Hehe, that woman was stubborn enough!" He glanced at Qin Yu a few times, nothing but ill intentions in his eyes. Then, the servant leader waved his hand and said, "Take him away and treat him well."

The sect meeting was tomorrow morning and this boy needed to enter the stage. Even though he was only there to make a brief appearance and his role was dispensable, it was better not to take any risks.

Once tomorrow passed and the matter was settled, those who still remembered this boy would slowly give him a welcome.

That young master Feng Yang had already passed down an order. No matter who came from the Zhou Family, they could forget about returning alive.

Tsk tsk, this young master might be a lecherous sack of waste, but he was sufficiently generous. Since such a great deal fell into his hands, he couldn't give up on this opportunity.

Torture wasn't allowed, but a little punishment was okay. This boy could forget about sleeping comfortably tonight. The more tired he was the less potential chaos he could cause tomorrow.

Thinking like this, the servant leader revealed a smug expression.

"Brat, you will be sleeping in the firewood room tonight. All of the logs beside you need to be chopped and stacked. Consider it the cost of your room!" A large bald man with big fists sneered as he spoke. He fiendishly grinned, his face looking like an elephant. "If you dare to be lazy, I will let you taste what despair is like!"

Qin Yu's face paled with 'panic' and he repeatedly nodded.

With a loud crash, the door to the firewood room was shut and locked from the outside. When the sound of footsteps went far away, Qin Yu straightened himself. He wrinkled his eyebrows as he looked around the room.

Sect meeting? It seemed that A'li really had provoked some great trouble this time. Or, she had offended someone who needed to be given such great treatment.

Unfortunately, he had no idea what was going on. Even if he wanted to prepare ahead of time he couldn't do that. He could only take things as they came tomorrow.

If things were within his ability, he would do his best to save her. But, if he couldn't...to lose their son in their middle-age and to lose their only granddaughter in their late-age, this kind of blow would be far too cruel for the elderly couple.

Qin Yu let out a light breath. "I hope there will be a favorable turn."

Chapter 689B – Zhou Li, Do You Acknowledge Your Guilt

To avoid creating any unnecessary side issues, he picked up the rusted hatchet and walked over to the pile of logs that was stacked several people high.

Kacha –

Kacha –

The sound of splitting wood constantly reverberated through the room. It was only when the sun rose on the next day that he finished up.

Qin Yu 'dazedly' slept for a short period of time before he was rudely woken up. After casually washing, he was brought in front of the servant leader with a face full of exhaustion. The servant leader seemed satisfied with his appearance. He smiled and said, "After a moment, bring him over."

Li Wei picked Qin Yu up and utilized his magic power, rapidly racing over the ground. They soon arrived in front of a massive square. At this time, numerous cultivators had gathered here but none of them were speaking. The atmosphere was solemn and respectful.

But right now, eyes began to veer towards Qin Yu. Some gazes were filled with ice cold mockery, some were sympathetic, but most were faint and distant.

To cultivators who stayed high and aloof, a low and humble mortal didn't have the qualifications for them to pay attention to. In any case, this mortal was also doomed to be thrust into the abyss.

After arriving at the entrance to the hall, Li Wei let go of Qin Yu. He respectfully said, "Sect Master, fellow Elders, I have brought Zhou Li's fiancé here."

There was a brief pause and then a low and deep voice came from within the hall, "Bring him in."

Li Wei hurriedly bowed. He said to Qin Yu, "The Sect Master has summoned you. Hurry inside!"

Qin Yu had a 'flustered' look on his face as he rushed through the doors, nearly tripping on his way in. He swept his eyes around the hall and then lowered his head in fear.

Although his cultivation hadn't been fully restored, his eyesight was still there. And, the people in this hall didn't bother concealing their auras at all.

The one sitting in the central seat of honor should be the ruler of the True Wood Sect. This person's aura was unfathomably deep and also seemed unified with the heavens and earth as one whole. He gave off an incomparably mystical feeling.

But compared to the Old Zhao he saw at Sky Declaring Pavilion, this person was far, far weaker. It was likely he had just touched upon the Great Dao realm and hadn't yet completed his breakthrough.

There were people sitting in chairs on both sides, seven men and women in total. Each one of them was at the Calamity Immortal realm. Amongst them, three of them gave Qin Yu a great sense of oppression.

Qin Yu's heart skipped a beat and he thought to himself that this world was truly fierce. This was only a minor sect and yet it unexpectedly possessed a formidable strength no weaker than the Holy Palace lineage.

On the stage, a man with white temples stood up. He was one of the three people who gave off an oppressive feeling to Qin Yu. He had a dignified expression as he said, "When Zhou Li entered the True Wood Sect, I took pity upon her humble origins and also admired her heart that never gave up, thus I decided to bring her in as a disciple. But, I never thought that in order to achieve her goals, she would use her beauty and try to seduce one of my outstanding disciples, Feng Yang, eventually causing him to suffer heavy losses and almost lose his life!"

After that his voice and appearance became stern and his icy cold eyes seemed to fill with the strength of a thousand soldiers. "For this reason, I ordered people to bring a member of the Zhou Family here to deal with this matter and show that my True Wood Sect is impartial and fair. Since you are Zhou Li's fiancé, you also have the qualifications to stand here. If you have any objections to this result, you can speak up and refute it!"

Yu Qing flicked his sleeves and shouted, "Men, bring the sinful disciple Zhou Li into the hall so that she may accept the rightful punishment of the sect!"

There was the sound of ringing shackles. Zhou Li walked in. She had been stripped of her usual attire and now only wore white clothes. She diligently tried to keep her back straight and upright. Perhaps because this affected her wounds, faint traces of dark red blood seeped out, looking particularly striking against her stark white clothing.

Yu Qing had a heavy expression on his face as he said, "Zhou Li, do you acknowledge your guilt?"

"I am innocent!" Zhou Li bit her lips and fixed her eyes tightly on her teacher, "You know the truth behind this matter. Why must you distort the truth, turning white to black and slandering me?"

Yu Qing had a stern and righteous expression. "The only thing I believe in is evidence. I will not show favoritism just because you are my disciple."

His eyes emanated with a heavy suppression. "Zhou Li, the sect has already investigated the situation and the evidence is conclusive. Do you still plan on denying it?"

Zhou Li's eyes turned vacant. She instinctively revealed fear, but she soon bit her lips and freed herself from the fear percolating in her mind.

"Teacher, I am disappointed in you, and I am disappointed in the entire True Wood Sect! Do you only do this because Feng Yang comes from an honored background while my origins are that of a low and humble mortal family?"

She could already see her own ending and her heart was icy cold. But since she had no way of avoiding death in the end, what was there left to fear?

Her eyes swept across the supposedly virtuous and righteous cultivators around the hall. She said, "None of you deserve to be called immortals!"

Because this was a sect meeting, everything happening in the hall could be sensed by the cultivators standing in the square outside. At this moment, all of their eyes widened with shock.

This Zhou Li, her guts were far larger than they imagined. She was surely going to die today...but when they listened to her words, many of them suddenly felt ill at heart. If the person standing in her position today was one of them, what would happen then? They feared the result would be the same.

"How insolent!" Xu Qing shouted out loud, the corners of his eyes twitching. He never thought that Zhou Li would be able to resist the mental suppression he exerted on her. The words she said were no different from publically slapping them in front of everyone.

Yu Qing could feel the faintly mocking look of the Sect Master from up high. He took a deep breath and said, "Zhou Li, your fiancé is in the hall with us right now. Husbands and wives share a singular body. If you remain stubborn and refuse to acknowledge your guilt, then I will open up a second round of investigations. Once enough evidence has been gathered, your fiancé will be punished together with you! Zhou Li, you had best consider your situation clearly. Will you acknowledge your guilt or not?"

Everyone scolded this person for being shameless in their hearts. He had even resorted to using outright threats; it was simply unbecoming of his status.

Yu Qing had no expression, as if he didn't see the eyes around him. He needed to end this quickly; the longer it dragged out, the more face he would lose. If this all became a farce, then not only would his plan of being on good terms with Feng Qing fail, but he would also end up offending her.

Fiancé?

Zhou Li revealed a vacant expression. She followed everyone's line of sight to see the 'terrified' Qin Yu standing in a corner of the hall.

It was him!

"You...why are you here?"

She suddenly felt a bit panicked. He wouldn't believe that Feng Yang had 'touched' her, right? She had been able to stand up to this entire hall full of high-level cultivators and speak her mind, but for some unknown reason, upon seeing Qin Yu she was suddenly flustered. Her heart filled with grievances and her eyes started to turn red.

Qin Yu 'trembled' as he said, "The immortals said that you experienced an accident. The old sir asked me to come here in his place."

Seeing his horrified and pale face, Zhou Li's surging emotions suddenly vanished.

That's right. Qin Yu was just a common person. Facing these cultivators that stood tall and lofty and possessed formidable strength, it was already difficult for him to remain standing. It was impossible for her to rely on him...perhaps he was full of dread and fear right now, afraid that he would be implicated.

Zhou Li took a deep breath and her expression turned indifferent. "Are grandmother and grandfather doing fine?"

"Yes, they are doing well."

"Then I can rest assured." Zhou Li turned away. She looked at Yu Qing and said, "Teacher, I acknowledge my guilt!"

Considering the shameless actions displayed by the True Wood Sect so far, even if they proceeded with another investigation, the result would not change. It would only result in Qin Yu also losing his life.

It was fine. That ash line grass was gifted to her by him. This could be considered as returning the favor. From this point on, she didn't owe him anything anymore.

...

The True Wood Sect's great sect meeting had already begun. Feng Qing arrived late. In her opinion, they were simply slandering an innocent woman and vilifying her purity. Even this so-called trial that would only result in her death was nothing but a dirty deal dressed up nicely. She felt nothing but disgust in her heart.

But what was truly a pity was that Feng Qing was a participating member of this deal. No matter what she thought, she needed to enter the stage and receive the response of the True Wood Sect.

I have received your regards and will naturally repay you in the future.

Her chest began to tumble and her face paled. But, her expression didn't change. Coldly and apathetically she entered the room. Through the array formation that had been arranged here ahead of time, she could see every corner of the hall.

These past years, she had long since trained herself to maintain a smile that was beautiful and yet lacking any warmth, as well as keep her feelings as hard as stone and metal.

"Miss Feng Qing, Zhou Li has acknowledged her guilt!" A True Wood Sect cultivator who was guiding her suddenly turned around, a smile on his face.

Feng Qing nodded, not surprised by this result. How could a delicate girl with no background block the sinister actions that had been unanimously agreed upon by the entire sect?

Zhou Li. Was that her name?

Feng Qing silently kept this name in mind. She wouldn't interfere in today's result, but after this disturbance was over, she could give some compensation to her family members...just like she had done before.

Her eyes fell onto the array formation projection and she saw Zhou Li. This was a young girl with a stubborn temperament who had her own pride.

Seeing her, Feng Qing was left in a daze, as if she could see herself from the past in this young girl. A her from the past who had no one to rely on, who was all alone, who stubbornly grit her teeth and clenched her hands.

Suddenly, Feng Qing stood up. Because in the array formation projection, she saw a figure that should never have appeared here, no matter what the reason was.

She flicked her sleeve and the array formation projection focused, enlarging on a certain area. When she saw the 'horrified' man in the projection, she was left stunned.

This person started to overlap with the figure in her memory, becoming one.

Their actions, their aura, none of it was the same. Could it only be that their appearances were similar?

No, it wasn't just similar. Their mouth and nose, all of it was the exact same!

Feng Qing sucked in a deep breath. She pointed at the figure and said, "Who is that person?"

Chapter 690A – Cross The Bridge and Burn It

The True Wood Sect cultivator respectfully replied, "Reporting to Miss Feng Qing, that person is called Qin Yu. He is Zhou Li's fiancé! My True Wood Sect has always handled matters fairly and impartially. Even if the other party is only an ordinary mortal, during trials we will also allow their family to attend and guarantee that they have no objection to the final result."

Seeing that Feng Qing wasn't responding, the cultivator asked, "Does Miss Feng Qing recognize that person?" If this was true, then things would be troublesome.

Hu –

Feng Qing suddenly stood up and hurried outside. Several True Wood Sect cultivators were left stunned as they quickly followed behind. They stared on helplessly as Feng Qing passed through several corridors. Then, with a flash of light, she flew towards the main hall where the sect meeting was being held.

In the square there were True Wood Sect cultivators with faint expressions, indifferent expressions, cynical expressions, sympathetic expressions, and even more. But at this time, they all saw a woman flying towards them. Her dress fluttered in the wind like a fairy, a beauty descending from the heavens. She landed at the entrance to the hall. Then, taking a deep breath, she stepped inside.

...

Yu Qing's smile had yet to fully unfold when he saw a person's shadow flash at the entrance to the hall. He subconsciously stiffened and then hurriedly said, "Miss Feng Qing, why are you here? Zhou Li has acknowledged her guilt and I was just about to announce her punishment."

Although everyone knew the true story behind Zhou Li's incident, it still wasn't good for Feng Qing to openly appear here. It was like removing everyone's cover and exposing the dirty darkness below.

It was said that Sky Declaring Pavilion's Feng Qing was smart and wise with an insight beyond her years, so why was she being so stupid today to run all the way here? She should have stayed in her room and watched from afar. Wasn't it best to wait for the dust to settle before she made an appearance?

This was an almost unspoken agreement. Yu Qing's smile unconsciously stiffened.

It was her?

Qin Yu's heart stirred. He watched Feng Qing burst in and he faintly guessed that today's accident was related to her in some way. When he thought about how Zhou Li had admitted guilt in order to save his life, he sighed and looked towards the entrance of the hall.

Their gazes collided in midair. Feng Qing felt as if her heart was quietly gripped by an invisible hand and she instantly determined Qin Yu's identity...it was him, that mysterious character who appeared at Parasol Tree Mountain that day.

But why would he appear here and become Zhou Li's fiancé? Moreover, with his Divine Dao level cultivation, he could crush the entire True Wood Sect to pieces with a single thought. Why would his current appearance be like this?

In a breath of time, countless thoughts raced through Feng Qing's mind. When she turned her eyes, a faint hypothesis had already started to form.

Perhaps this was her chance!

Feng Qing was absolutely worthy of the previous impression that Yu Qing had of her. With a thought, she immediately made a decision. She lightly coughed, causing all of the cultivators of the True Wood Sect in the hall to look at her. Then, she slowly said, "I questioned Feng Yang just now, and he acknowledged that he tried to take advantage of Miss Zhou, subsequently causing her to resist and also causing her to accidentally detonate a tool, leading to his severe injuries."

Feng Qing had a sincere expression, "Miss Zhou Li, allow me to sincerely apologize to you here. Concerning this matter, I will severely punish Feng Yang and give you sufficient compensation. I am not asking you to forgive him; I am only trying to make things up to you, if only a little."

The entire hall fell deathly silent. All of the True Wood Sect cultivators widened their eyes and their chins nearly fell to the floor. If it weren't for everyone having the exact same expression on their faces, they would have thought that they were hallucinating.

Hey, this isn't how the script was supposed to go!

Miss Feng Qing, why are you being like this? Our True Wood Sect won't have any face left! We tossed out our own disciple and slandered her. In order to establish friendly relations with you, we planned this multi-layered performance.

Now, we have already fulfilled our role of being the sinister villains, and you suddenly decided to jump out and completely overturn the table, even directly apologizing for making a mistake. But, where are we supposed to put our honor?

Everyone said to burn the bridge after crossing it, tossing their benefactor out after being used. But you haven't even crossed the river and yet you've directly cut down the bridge and tossed it into the river. Hey, we don't want to play this game with you!

Yu Qing froze in place. After using up a great deal of strength, he squeezed out a smile that was uglier than his crying face. "Miss Feng Qing, are you feeling ill somewhere? Cough cough...concerning this matter, Zhou Li has already acknowledged guilt!"

Speaking to here, he emphasized his words as a reminder.

There was nothing else he could do. With things having come to this point, how could he turn around? After all, from beginning to end, he had been the one directing this play.

Feng Qing looked at him, her expression faint. "I know. But Miss Zhou Li only acknowledged guilt because there was nothing else she could do."

Yu Qing's complexion paled. He had no idea where an accident had occurred, but there was one thing he was sure of. After today, he would become a true laughingstock of the entire True Wood Sect.

Damn it!

Feng Qing, what trick are you trying to play?

His eyes were dark and gloomy. Yu Qing started to consider what would happen if he tore apart any pretense of face with her. But just thinking about it left him discouraged. Sky Declaring Pavilion's strength was not something he could contend with. He could only forcefully restrain the burgeoning anger in his heart.

In the seat of honor, the Sect Master revealed a hint of disappointment and mockery in his eyes. He hoped that Yu Qing would lose his reasoning. If so, he could remove a competitor that was trying to seize his position. But even though his expectations weren't met, he was still satisfied with today's situation.

With a light cough, the True Wood Sect Master said, "Since Feng Yang has already admitted guilt, there must have been some faults in Elder Yu Qing's investigation. Luckily, Miss Feng Qing is someone fair and impartial who won't shield her family if they are wrong. If it weren't for her, my True Wood Sect would have wronged a disciple."

Looking at Zhou Li, his eyes were warm, "Zhou Li, do not worry. Since the sect owes you in this matter, we will give you due compensation."

With a few words he had tossed all of the responsibility onto Yu Qing's shoulders. If there was a problem with the investigation, that is your problem; it has nothing to do with the True Wood Sect.

Many people in the hall quietly relaxed. Even those that were on good terms with Yu Qing, such as the other two Elders that were working with him to contend against the Sect Master, also tacitly agreed to this viewpoint.

Pushing Yu Qing out alone was always better than having the honor of their entire sect stripped away and ruthlessly trampled upon!

Yu Qing's lungs nearly blew up from rage. But, he could easily see the changing thoughts of those around him from their shifting expressions. His face paled and he clenched his teeth and bowed, "Sect Master, it was indeed I who was too careless during the investigation."

If he didn't acknowledge this then he would be standing on the side opposite the entire sect. It would only leave him in an even more distressed situation. Seeing the unaffected Feng Qing, Yu Qing had no idea why she would do this. If she really wanted to be impartial and fair, then what about her previous actions of protecting Feng Yang?

I'm innocent...I'm innocent...

Zhou Li suddenly felt tears streaming down her face. The more she wiped them away, the more tears there were. She slumped to the ground, her sobbing cries filled with sadness. Her weeping cries were like slaps to all those present, causing the atmosphere to become even more awkward. All of the cultivators from the True Wood Sect had stiff expressions.

Feng Qing walked in front of her and said in a soft voice, "Zhou Li, don't cry. It was we who were mistaken and almost wronged you." She patted her shoulder, her eyes flashing as she said, "With your stubbornness, you aren't suited for cultivating the wood-attribute cultivation methods which emphasize harmony of mind and a temperate spirit. Are you willing to come with me and cultivate by my side in the future?"

Zhou Li had no idea who Feng Qing was, but from what just happened, she could guess that she had an extremely high status. Thinking about how she could only be declared innocent because of Feng Qing's 'selflessness', Zhou Li held back her tears and nodded, "I do."

She wasn't stupid. She knew that after today, even though no one said anything on the surface, she had already offended almost all of the powerful figures in the True Wood Sect.

If she remained here, there wouldn't be any good days left for her. Since she had an even better chance, she needed to firmly take hold of it.

Feng Qing smiled, satisfied with her decisiveness. She pulled Zhou Li up to her feet. "Don't worry. When you follow by my side, no one will bully you again."

The meaning of these words...hey, are you saying that our entire True Wood Sect wouldn't care about face and would bully a little girl? The atmosphere in the hall became awkward once more.

Luckily, Feng Qing had no intention of truly shaming them. She said, "Since this matter has been resolved, then let us end it all here. If there is nothing else, I will take them away first."

As she spoke, she glanced at Qin Yu.

The reason she had offended the True Wood Sect and caused the future patriarch of the Feng Family to shoulder an ill reputation was all for this chance.

Chapter 690B – Cross the Bridge and Burn It

Feng Qing ordered people to bring Feng Yang back to the family to rest and recover. She excused herself, saying that she had other matters to attend to. Then she brought Zhou Li and Qin Yu with her before leaving in another direction.

In a carriage, Qin Yu realized Zhou Li's awkwardness. He coughed, "Are you fine?"

With heaven and earth as his conscience, there was no other meaning behind his words. He only used it to break the silence, but in Zhou Li's ears it sounded especially grating.

Her face flushed red a little and her expression turned cold and desolate. "You don't need to worry. No matter what happens to me, it has nothing to do with you!"

Qin Yu furrowed his eyebrows before revealing a helpless look. Although he knew she was overthinking things, the more he attempted to explain himself the worse it would become. He nodded and said, "That's good then."

Looking at Qin Yu's expression, Zhou Li moved her lips, thinking that her tone might have been too heavy just now. But after experiencing all of that chaos, her emotions were too sensitive and she didn't want to delve into the meaning of Qin Yu's silence.

Qin Yu stood up. "You rest well. I'll be leaving first."

He pushed open the door and left. Someone was already waiting outside, ready to lead him to another carriage.

Feng Qing looked at the carriage he entered, a look of understanding in her eyes. She pushed open the door to see Zhou Li.

It was unknown what was said, but Zhou Li's mood was soon restored. She held onto a newly obtained ice-attribute law formula and fell into thought.

...

The space within the carriage was large, almost as if it were a complete house. Although the decorations inside were ordinary, they were all exquisitely built and the materials used to construct everything were even more sophisticated.

An incense burner was lit and a faint fragrance spread out, filling the air with a scent that invigorated the spirits and brightened the mind.

Qin Yu sat behind a long and narrow table, peacefully holding onto a teapot as he brewed the tea. The incredible shock absorbing abilities of the carriage made it so that no one inside felt any bumps or jolts.

There was a knock on the door. Qin Yu didn't look up as he said, "Enter."

There was a creak as the door opened from outside. With its quality of construct, it could have opened without a sound. This sound was only there to serve as a reminder.

Feng Qing stepped inside and respectfully bowed. "I didn't think that I would be able to see you again in a few short days. It is truly my honor."

Qin Yu didn't stop brewing tea. It was only when he poured out two cups that he gestured a hand and said, "Miss Feng Qing, please sit down." Every action and movement he took made it seem as if he were the master of this place. He was calm and unflustered.

Feng Qing's eyes flashed with happiness. She earnestly thanked Qin Yu and then sat down, taking a sip of the tea. "To drink tea that you personally brewed is enough to be a point of pride for me."

Qin Yu said, "Since you helped Zhao Li, this is what you deserve."

The value of offending the True Wood Sect and causing the future patriarch of the Feng Family to shoulder an ill reputation was actually only a single cup of tea! But in Feng Qing's eyes, this was normal. Did she expect to obtain the acknowledgement of a Divine Dao expert with something so minor? That was simply the babblings of an idiot!

What she wanted was only an opportunity to speak with this mysterious person.

Qin Yu's cup of tea represented her having grasped this opportunity.

Feng Qing slowly drank the tea and Qin Yu didn't hurry her. When she laid down the teacup she respectfully said, "If any of my following words offend you, please forgive me."

Qin Yu said, "You may speak."

Feng Qing took a deep breath, "If my guess is correct, then in your current condition you should need some extra assistance right now."

After she spoke she nervously glanced at Qin Yu.

Qin Yu didn't acknowledge or deny this. He said, "And?"

Feng Qing said, "Although my cultivation isn't high, Sky Declaring Pavilion stands behind me. I should be able to provide certain conveniences for you."

"Why do you think I need your help?"

"Your actions today prove that your strength is far from being restored." Feng Qing clenched her teeth, "This world is too dangerous. Even a Divine Dao powerhouse has a chance of falling. You will only be able to rest peacefully when your strength has been fully restored."

Qin Yu's eyes flashed, like a bolt of lightning crossed the night sky. Feng Qing froze and fear gushed out of her heart.

Had she been too insolent in front of a Divine Dao powerhouse? Even if her hypothesis was correct, it would still be easy for this person to kill her...but, this was a once in a lifetime chance. If she missed out on it she feared she would never come across another one.

After an unknown length of time, when Feng Qing's mind was on the verge of collapse, Qin Yu's eyes were restored to tranquility. "Your guess isn't wrong; I am facing some issues right now. If you can provide sufficient help, I will repay you."

Success!

Feng Qing let out a light breath, a smile appearing on her pale face. "Of course. Do not worry, I will do everything in my power to help you restore yourself as soon as possible!"

Qin Yu said, "Tell me, what request do you have?"

In this world, there was no such thing as a free lunch.

Feng Qing said in a low voice, "I am hoping that you can help me investigate something. Why does the true master of Sky Declaring Pavilion have such an interest in me?"

Qin Yu didn't show any surprise. He tapped his fingers against the table, "You think there are some other truths behind this? What evidence do you have?"

Feng Qing shook her head, "I don't have any. I have tried many methods, but none of them ever come up with anything. In your eyes, you may see me as simply an orphan girl from a fallen family. Just what is so special about me that I can obtain the favor of Sky Declaring Pavilion's master and even become his spokesperson?"

Qin Yu said, "You are lying."

Feng Qing's face stiffened.

Qin Yu stood up. "It seems that there is no longer anything to discuss."

Feng Qing hurriedly said, "Please quell your anger. I know that I was wrong...I...I only thought that this matter is too strange and eerie."

She stood up and blocked Qin Yu's path, a pleading look on her face.

Qin Yu was without expression. "I will give you one more chance. If you still conceal anything, then things will end here."

"I will tell you everything." Feng Qing recalled some memories and a look of fear crossed her face. "I remember it very clearly. After I reached 18 years of age and crossed my ritual into adulthood, I would drift off into unconsciousness every night and experience the same dream. In this dream, I was running through a dark forest. But no matter how quickly I ran or how far, I was unable to escape the cold pair of eyes floating behind me."

She hugged herself, her voice shaking, "It was a pair of white eyes without any other color. Inside those eyes, it was like a deep pool, cold and dead. I could feel greed from the eyes. It wanted to swallow me...yes...it wanted to eat me..."

Dreamland? White eyes?

Qin Yu furrowed his eyebrows. "And what does this have to do with your suspicions?"

Feng Qing was silent for some time. Then she continued to say, "The true master of Sky Declaring Pavilion is wrapped in mystery. Those from the outside believe him to be a thin middle-aged man; no one has seen his true appearance. Several years ago, during a trade fair with a high standard for entry, I inadvertently learned that Sky Declaring Pavilion's master once had another title...it is the Master of White Eyes."

All the blood drained from her face.

From Feng Qing's actions, Qin Yu could determine that she was speaking the truth. His thoughts raced and he said, "I can agree to your condition. Moreover, if I am satisfied with your performance, then I can provide an extra layer of safety to you if it is within my scope of control."

Feng Qing was overjoyed. "Thank you!" This was an additional request that she had been preparing to ask in the future once she provided a certain degree of assistance. It was wonderful that Qin Yu raised this topic on his own initiative.

Qin Yu said, "There is no need to express thanks. First explain your plan to me."

Feng Qing's voice became even more respectful. She said, "Although on the surface it seems that I am the manager of Sky Declaring Pavilion, all of the branch pavilions have their own stewards and there are also Elders patrolling all around; I cannot do anything I please. So, the best method is for you to become a part of Sky Declaring Pavilion. Doing so will help me facilitate further arrangements for you."

Qin Yu's eyes flashed. "If your worries are true, then people should be monitoring you in secret. Anything you do will be noticed by others."

Feng Qing nodded, "You are correct. To avoid being discovered by others, I still need to find an appropriate turning point."

She paused and then said, "Please allow me the liberty of asking this. While your cultivation is temporarily stranded in an inconvenient place, do you have any other special abilities?"

Qin Yu rubbed his chin. "What is the easiest way to enter Sky Declaring Pavilion?"

"Alchemists and beast trainers! Masters of these aspects have always been scarce!" Feng Qing revealed an awkward expression, "But Sky Declaring Pavilion has extremely high standards. Only those that show a sufficiently splendid performance will be accepted."

For better or worse, Qin Yu had already spent some time in this world and had come to understand some things. There wasn't anything to say about alchemy, but a beast trainer was a specific occupation in which a person cultivated and raised formidable monster beasts.

Before his cultivation was restored, he temporarily couldn't take the path of alchemy. However, he might be able to disguise himself as a beast trainer. Still, he needed to confirm it.

"Give me Sky Declaring Pavilion's recruiting standards for beast trainers."

Feng Qing didn't doubt him. She took out a jade slip and respectfully placed it on the table. Qin Yu's lips twitched and he said, "Just tell me."

Revealing an amazed look, Feng Qing paused for a moment before saying, "Beast trainers that enter Sky Declaring Pavilion need to be able to cultivate and raise spirit food by themselves and guarantee that the power of spirit beasts can rise in a stable and controlled manner. Moreover, they need to complete the missions distributed to them every certain period of time."

"If you can enter Sky Declaring Pavilion with the status of a beast trainer, then that would be for the best. This is because when raising spirit beasts, many materials are required to feed them. And at the same time, a cultivator can also use these materials. When reporting the losses and material damages, I will be able to relax the boundaries."

"It's only..."

Although she didn't finish speaking, Qin Yu understood her meaning. The stronger the spirit beast that was being cultivated, the more precious materials one could come into contact with. On the other hand, if the standard was average, then the materials would also be the same. To a Divine Dao existence, these materials might be nothing more than chicken feed.

After a short time, Qin Yu had a general idea of the situation. "Very well. I shall use the identity of a beast trainer to enter Sky Declaring Pavilion."